7

GHOST HUNT

Manga by Shiho Inada

Story by Fuyumi Ono

tanoshimi

GHOST HUNT 7

Shiho Inada

Fuyumi Ono

A HUNGRY HOUSE

After a series of disappearances in an old mansion, the intrepid ghost hunters of Shibuya Psychic Research try to unearth the gruesome secret of this scary maze of rooms and passageways. The discovery that the house has a history of murders leaves the team fearing for their safety. What mystery is this dark manor hiding? And will SPR crack the case in time to save one of their own from a terrible fate?

Includes special extras after the story!

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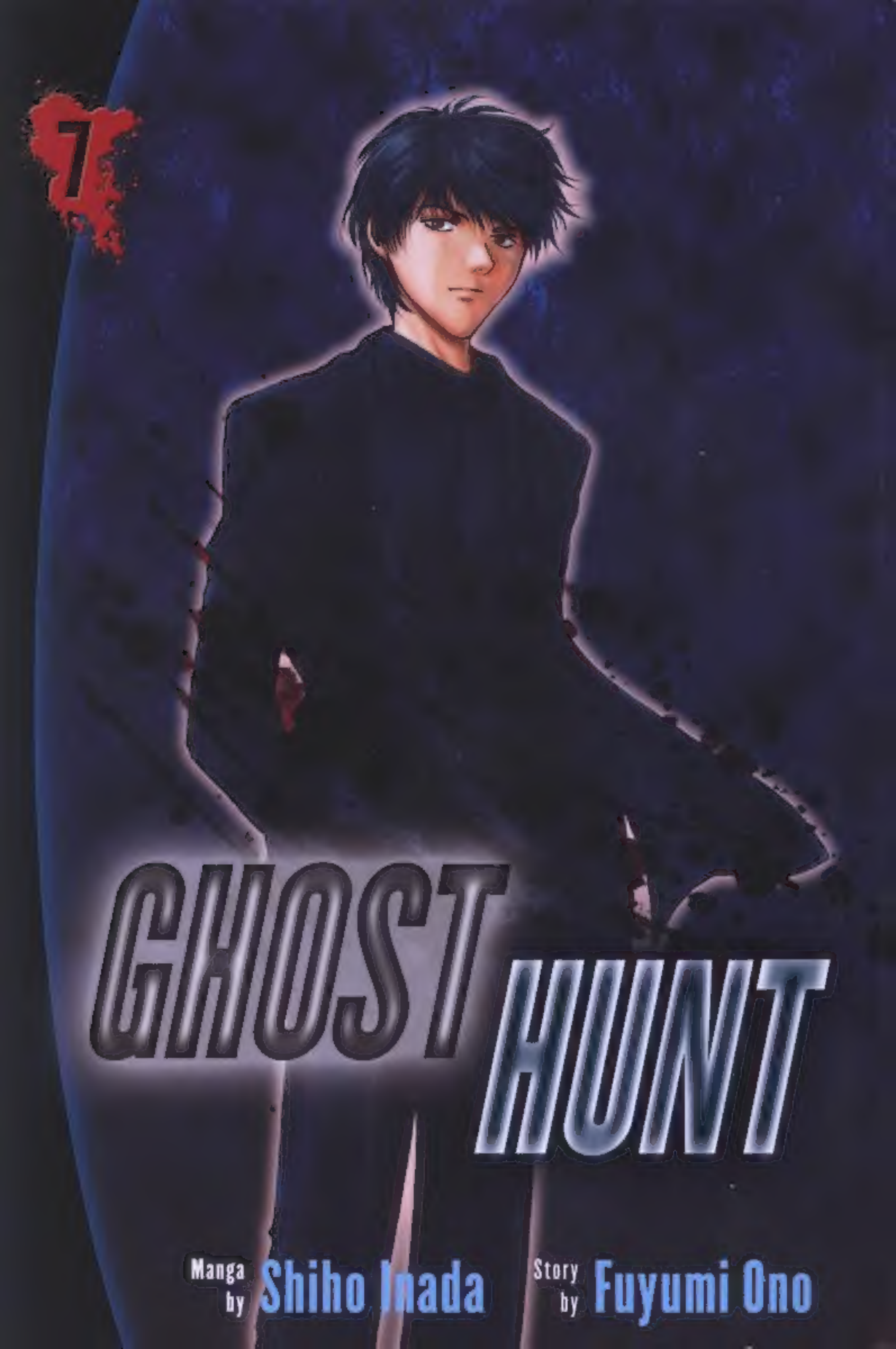
KODANSHA

GRAPHIC NOVEL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STORY BY FUYUMI ONO

TRANSLATED BY EGAN LOO

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Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Tanoshimi Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics, and, more important, how they differ from English honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), or as a title at the end of one's name, or in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei" or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics, and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Tanoshimi not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Tanoshimi Manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san." It is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is even a higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men amongst friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English term "kid".

Sempai/ Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "-sempai," and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be insulting.

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FROM THE
EVIL SPIRIT SERIES
GHOST HUNT
7
THE BLOODSTAINED LABYRINTH

GHOST HUNT

THIS IS WHAT SPR IS ALL ABOUT!

WHERE'S THE CASE NOW...?

PEOPLE HAVE BEEN VANISHING FOR YEARS IN AN OLD MANSION WITH LABYRINTHINE ROOMS. RUMORS OF GHOST SIGHTINGS ABOUND AND NOW THERE IS A NEW SUCCESSION OF MISSING PERSONS CASES...

SINCE SPR BEGAN ITS INVESTIGATION, THREE MORE PEOPLE HAVE DISAPPEARED—INCLUDING MAI HERSELF—!?

SPR MEMBERS ARE...

WHEN SPR HAD INVESTIGATED MAI'S SCHOOL ON A PAST CASE, THESE MEMBERS JOINED FORCES TO EXORCISE IT.

LIN-SAN

NARU'S ENIGMATIC ASSOCIATE.

MASAKO HARA

A PSYCHIC MEDIUM. SHE IS WELL KNOWN IN THE PSYCHIC INDUSTRY.

JOHN BROWN

AN EXORCIST WHO SPEAKS WITH A KANSAI DIALECT.

AYAKO MATSUZAKI

A SELF-CLAIMED "MIKO."

HOUSHOU TAKIGAWA

FORMERLY A MONK AT MT. KOUYA!

SHIBUYA PSYCHIC RESEARCH (SPR)

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE TO SCIENTIFICALLY RESEARCH AND SUBDUE UNEXPLAINABLE PHENOMENA THAT OCCUR AROUND THEIR CLIENTS.

PRESIDENT OF SPR: KAZUYA SHIBUYA (AKA NARU)

17 YEARS OLD, HE'S COOL-HEADED, GOOD-LOOKING, AND SMART, BUT HE'S A SUPER NARCISSIST. SO HE HAS BEEN NICKNAMED NARU (SHORT FOR NARCISSIST).

MAI TANIYAMA

A LIVELY 16-YEAR-OLD STUDENT WHO WORKS PART-TIME AT SPR. ENTHUSIASTIC, ALTHOUGH NARU ALWAYS GIVES HER A HARD TIME. (SHE'S ONLY SEEN NARU SMILE IN HER DREAMS!) BUT SHE MAY SECRETLY BE IN LOVE WITH HIM♡!

GHOST HUNT

— THE BLOODSTAINED LABYRINTH —

FILE 6

IT FELT LIKE FINE HAIL RUNNING OVER MY SKIN.

ドガ
MAI!!

WAAAAAAAAAAAH!
WH-
WHAT HAPPENED?
=IT WAS AWFUL...

WHAT HAPPENED? ARE YOU OKAY!?

KNOCK!

KNOCK!

KNOCK!

WHY...?

WHY DID I DREAM THAT...!?

I REALLY THOUGHT I'D DIED.

...MAI?

WHAT WAS IT!?

...I THINK SO...

...WAS THIS DREAM DIFFERENT?

WHAT KIND OF DREAM DID YOU HAVE?

SLUMP

YOU SCARED THE HECK OUT OF US WHEN WE HEARD THAT AWFUL SHRIEK.

SHEEZ, YOU...

...A DREAM...

I HAD...A TERRIFYING DREAM...

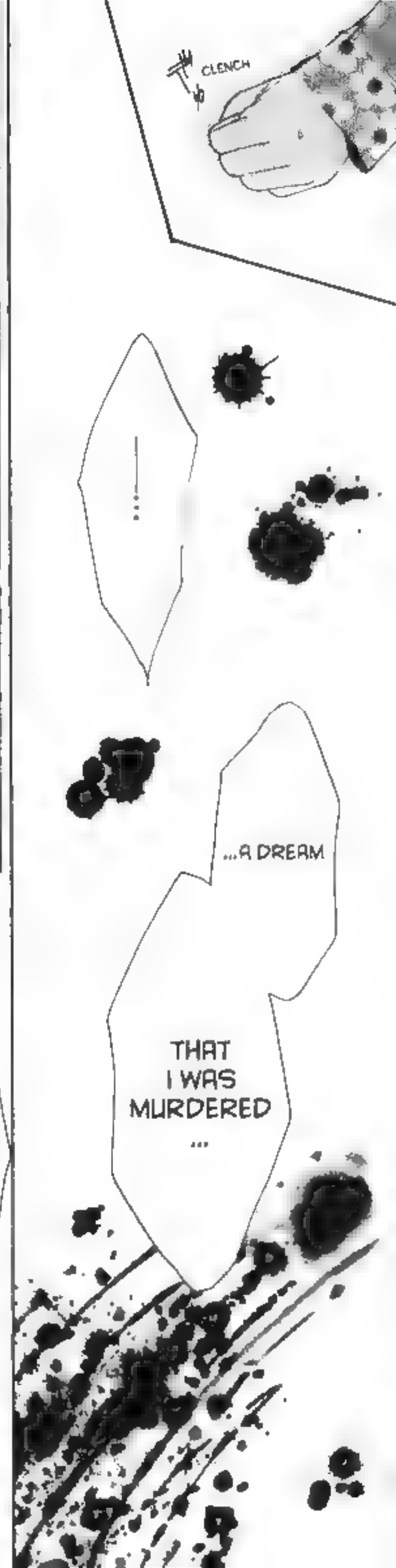
JUST A DREAM!?

IT WAS DRENCHED WITH BLOOD...
THEY PUT ME ON AN OPERAT NG TAB.E AND I WAS TIED DOWN.

AND THEY DRAGGED ME TO A ROOM COVERED WITH STRANGE TILES.
UH... TWO MEN CAME IN...

I CAN STILL— FEEL THE SENSATION...
THEN WITH A LARGE KNIFE... THEY CUT MY THROAT...

PRT
PRT
EXHALE
BLOOD STARTED—
THAT'S OKAY. YOU CAN STOP.
IT'S A HORRIBLE THING TO REMEMBER.


CLENCH
...A DREAM
THAT I WAS MURDERED ...

KLIK
-RU...
...NA-

ARE YOu ALL RIGHT?

HUH

KLINK

WAIT, HE WEARS PAJAMAS!?

HE'S WEARING ONLY P-P-P-PAJAMAS—

OF COURSE, IT'S NIGHTTIME BUT STILL, NARU!?

WHA!

NARU!

HE'S NOT DRESSED IN BLACK...!

—AH

THE SCENT OF BLACK TEA...

...IT'S SO STRANGE.

I FEEL CALM SOMEHOW.

THANKS...

YEAH...

I'M FINE.

SHOULD YOU BE GOING BACK TO THE BASE?

MAI, YOU'RE SURE YOU'RE OKAY?

...WHA—

YEP! SO LET'S GET TO WORK!

REALLY?

IF YOU SAY SO, BUT...

UH-HUH, I'M FINE.

GETTING UP AND MOVING AROUND WILL HELP ME FEEL BETTER

IS THAT ALL RIGHT?

I APOLOGIZE FOR ASKING YOU TO REPEAT YOUR TERRIBLE VISION TO SHIBUYA-SAN.

I-IT'S FINE! DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.

IS SOME-THING WRONG?

NARU ALSO SAID THAT IF WE GATHER THE DATA IT'LL BE EASIER TO FIND THOSE TWO THAT ARE MISSING.

WELL...

RIGHT!

BECAUSE...

ASSUMING ONE OF THEM DIED...

...YOU FELT THE EXPERIENCE OF HER DEATH AS IF IT WERE YOUR OWN, TANIYAMA-SAN.

!?

ABOUT SUZUKI-SAN AND ATSUGI-SAN...

ISN'T ONE OF THEM ALREADY DEAD?

YAMAZOKU SPIRIT

THEN SOME-ONE WAS "MURDERED."

BUT IF IT WAS...

NO REASON TO THINK IT WASN'T AN EXAMPLE OF A TELEPATHIC DREAM.

ISN'T THAT POSSIBLE?

MURDERED...

MAYBE PEOPLE HERE DID HAVE SOME-THING TO DO WITH IT...

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT, BUT...

HUH

?

MAZOKU SPIRIT

...HONESTLY!?

ARE YOU FOR REAL?

HE WAS WORRIED THAT THIS MIGHT LEAK TO THE PRESS SO HE LOCKED THEM UP AND PROCEEDED TO SILENCE THEM, ONE BY ONE...

YEAH, YEAH! OHASHI-SAN MUST BE SOME HOMICIDAL MANIAC.

HRMM

ACTUALLY, MAYBE THOSE TWO THAT WENT MISSING BEFORE AND THE HOUSE STAFF...

HEY!

THIS IS LIKE A MOVIE OR SOME-THING.

RIGHT?

THEN NO ONE DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO THIS MANSION HAS DISAPPEARED.

AND ON THAT BASIS YOU CONCLUDE THAT OHASHI-SAN'S A HOMICIDAL MANIAC?

IF NARU HEARD THAT, WHAT DO YOU THINK HE'D SAY...?

...GRRR!

WE'VE ONLY BEEN HERE FOR FOUR DAYS...AND TWO PEOPLE HAVE VANISHED, RIGHT?

BUT ISN'T IT KIND OF ODD?

THE HOUSE STAFF WAS HERE PREPARING FOR A WHOLE WEEK, BUT NOTHING HAPPENED TO ANY OF THEM.

YEAH...

...BUT ISN'T IT TRUE THAT ONLY OUTSIDERS HAVE DISAPPEARED?

THE BOY WHO SNUCK INTO THIS MANSION...

IS THERE ANY DOUBT THAT MUST MEAN SOMETHING?

STILL, WE CAN'T DENY THAT ONLY OUTSIDERS HAVE DISAPPEARED.

AND THEN, THE TWO MEDIUMS— SUZUKI-SAN AND ATSUGI-SAN...

THE YOUNG MAN IN THE SEARCH PARTY LOOKING FOR HIM...

NO, NO, I DON'T.

JOHN, STOP IT! I CAN'T BELIEVE EVEN YOU THINK OHASHI-SAN'S A CRIMINAL.

FROM WHAT WE'VE SEEN SO FAR, I THINK THERE'S NO DOUBT GHOSTS ARE INVOLVED IN THE DISAPPEARANCES.

PERHAPS...

SO WHY WEREN'T THEY HARMED?

BUT NONE OF THE HOUSE STAFF ARE BLOOD RELATIONS OF THE MIYAMA FAMILY, RIGHT?

YOU KNOW...?

DID THEY DELIBERATELY AVOID THE MIYAMA FAMILY?

DID THE SPIRITS CHOOSE WHO THEY WANTED TO ABDUCT?

SINCE THEY WEREN'T, THE GHOSTS HERE ONLY WANT YOUNG PEOPLE.

WEREN'T THE MISSING ALL IN THEIR 20S OR YOUNGER?

THINK ABOUT IT...

THE ENTIRE HOUSE STAFF IS TOO OLD.

WAIT! YOU CAN'T GO ALONE.

WE'RE ALL UNDER 30...

IF JOHN'S THEORY IS CORRECT, THAT MEANS WE'RE ALL IN DANGER.

I HAVE TO TELL NARU!

OH NO...

...IF THAT'S TRUE...

WE MUST TELL NARU-CHAN.

ABSOLUTELY NO ONE SHOULD BE ALONE.

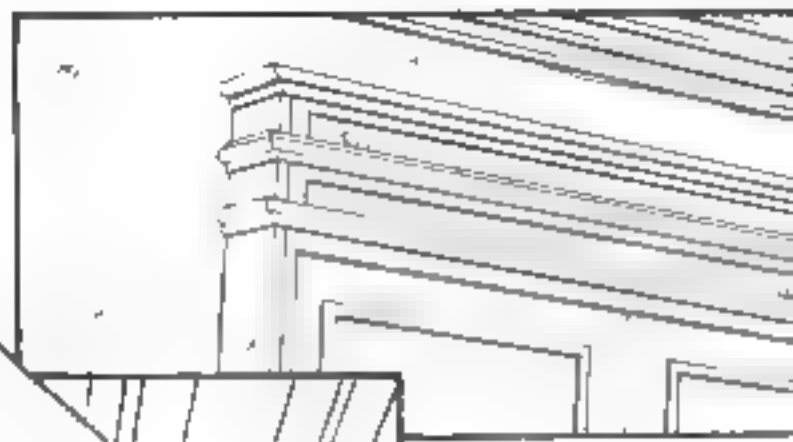
DID...DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?

THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE OKAY.

ANOTHER PERSON DISAPPEARED!

WHO WAS IT?

AGAIN!?



—YOU'RE BACK!

THAT YOUNG GIRL WITH THE MINAMI PSYCHIC RESEARCH CENTER?

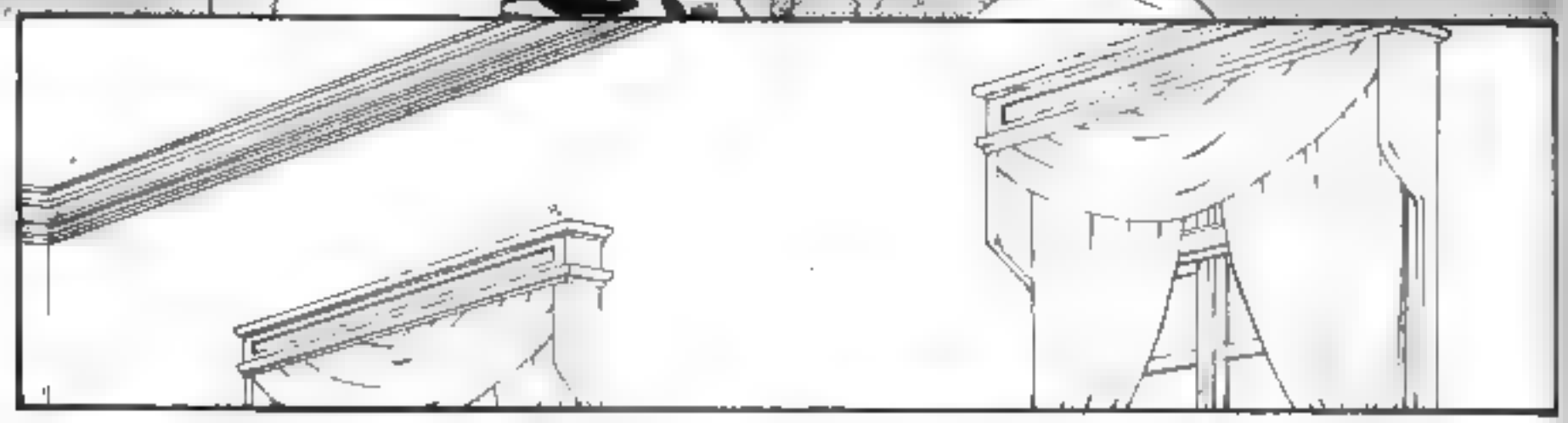
IT WAS FUKUDA-SAN.

LIKE YOU SAID...

HUH!?

HOW OLD WAS SHE?

I DON'T KNOW! MAYBE AROUND TWENTY-FIVE?



YOU TWO ARE NOT TO BE ALONE.

I SEE...

NOW'S NOT THE TIME FOR WORD GAMES.

IT'S DANGEROUS HERE, BUT WE NEED MAI AND YASUHARA-SAN.

HOW MUCH MAY WE RELY ON YOU?

MATSUZAKI-SAN...

HOW MUCH MAY WE DEPEND ON YOU?

WHAT ARE YOU ASKING?

I'M WORRIED, MATSUZAKI-SAN.

ARE WE ALL AGREED?

SO, WE'RE COMPLETELY DEPENDENT ON MATSUZAKI-SAN AND HARA-SAN.

UNDER-STOOD.

YOU CAN RELY ON ME COMPLETELY.

FOR COUNTER-SPELLS...

SINCE I'M A MEDIUM, I CAN PROTECT MYSELF

SO THAT'S VERY FEW PEOPLE.

BASICALLY, I DON'T FEEL I CAN TRUST ANYONE OUTSIDE OUR GROUP.

WAIT!

HARA-SAN...

...GOOD POINT...

SO, MONK-SAN AND JOHN...

YOU TWO GUARD YASUHARA-SAN.

PLEASE BE DILIGENT.

AND IS IT ALL RIGHT IF I GUARD TANIYAMA-SAN?

...YES.

YASUHARA-SAN, YOU CAN'T DEFEND YOURSELF AT ALL.

WE NEED PEOPLE WHO CAN BE DEPENDED UPON TO PROTECT YOU.

IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, YOU CAN'T USE COUNTER-SPELLS, RIGHT?
THEN WHO'LL GUARD YOU?

OKAY, BUT...

NARU ISN'T A MEDIUM...
HE ONLY RESEARCHES THE SUPER-NATURAL.

HE'S RIGHT. I'D FORGOTTEN ABOUT THAT...
T-THAT'S RIGHT! WHAT WOULD YOU DO!?

BROWN-SAN,
PLEASE GUARD TANIYAMA-SAN.
MONK-SAN, YOU'LL BE BY YOUR-SELF.

I'LL THINK OF SOME-THING.
THIS IS NO JOKE. I'M WORRIED... ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN.
TAKIGAWA-SAN, GUARD YASUHARA-SAN.

I'M CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF THREATS HERE.

I'M NOT UNDER-ESTIMATING THE SITUATION.

HEY, WAIT, NARU-CHAN...

"TEACH US"...?

WHAT DOES HE MEAN?

WE CAN'T LEAVE YOU BY YOUR-SELF.

SO, PLEASE SEND SOMEONE BACK.

IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU THINK WE COULD LEARN FROM YOU, WHY DON'T YOU "TEACH" US?

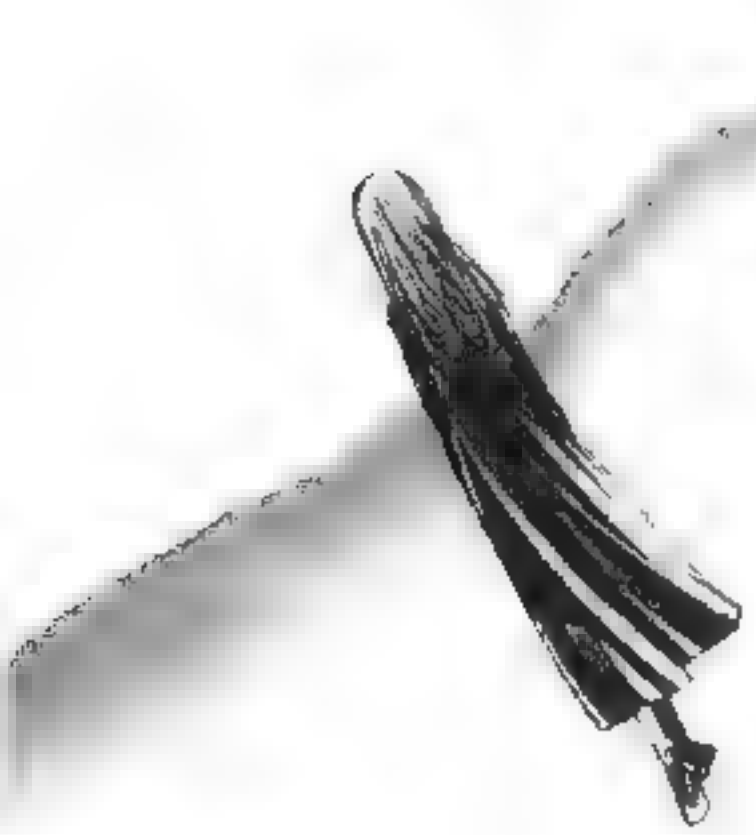
FORGET YOU SAID YOU WERE ONE OF 17 CHILDREN?
LIN...
DID YOU...
PLEASE AT LEAST CONSIDER YOUR PARENTS' FEELINGS.
IF YOU'RE NOT SATISFIED WITH MY LEADERSHIP, FEEL FREE TO LEAVE.
BECAUSE I'M JUST HERE TO OBSERVE YOU.
IT BOTHERS ME THAT YOU'VE FORGOTTEN. I AM NOT YOUR CHAPERONE.
HARA はら
HARA はら
WHAT IS THIS, A DOMESTIC DISPUTE?
DO WE HAVE A MISUNDER-STANDING HERE?
OF COURSE, I MAY LEAVE.

OBSERVE HIM!?
O-
I'LL LEAVE.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN!?
"OBSERVE," "OBSERVE"...

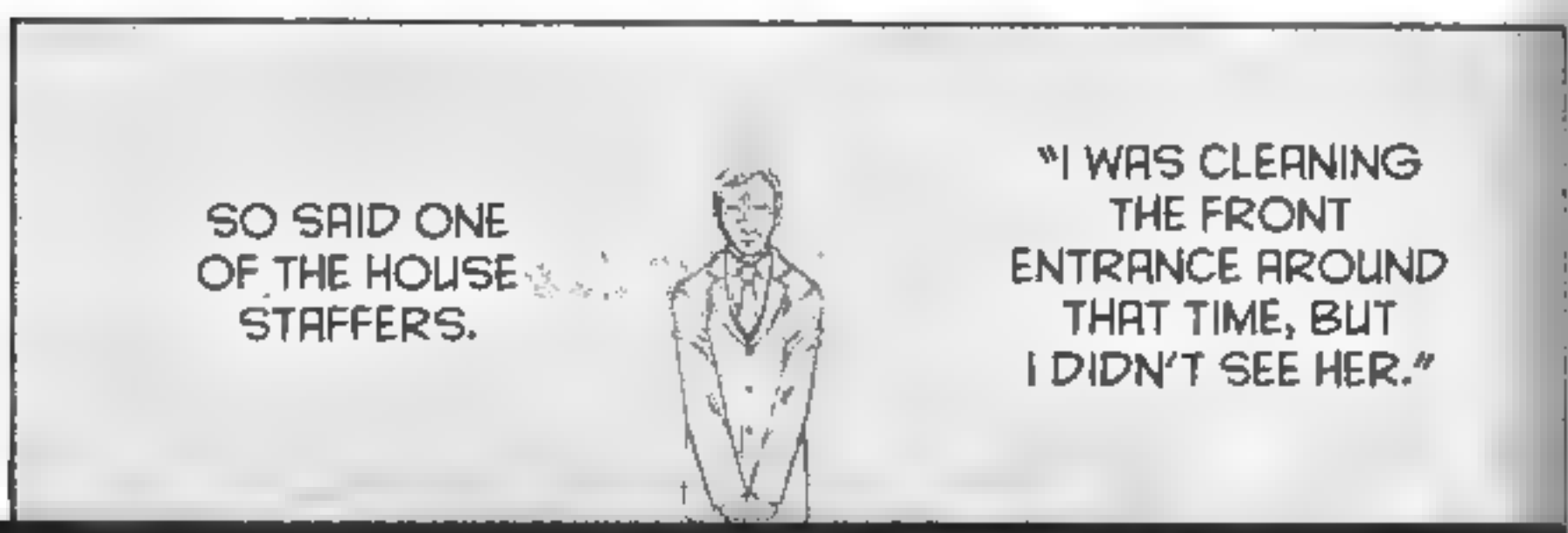
I'LL ASS ST MORI-SAN IN SUWA CITY.
ISN'T A PRESIDENT SUPPOSED TO ASSIGN RESPONSIBILITY TO HIS EMPLOYEES AND THEN LEAVE SO HE DOESN'T BECOME A NUISANCE?
IF I DO THAT, THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEMS.
HEY, BOY

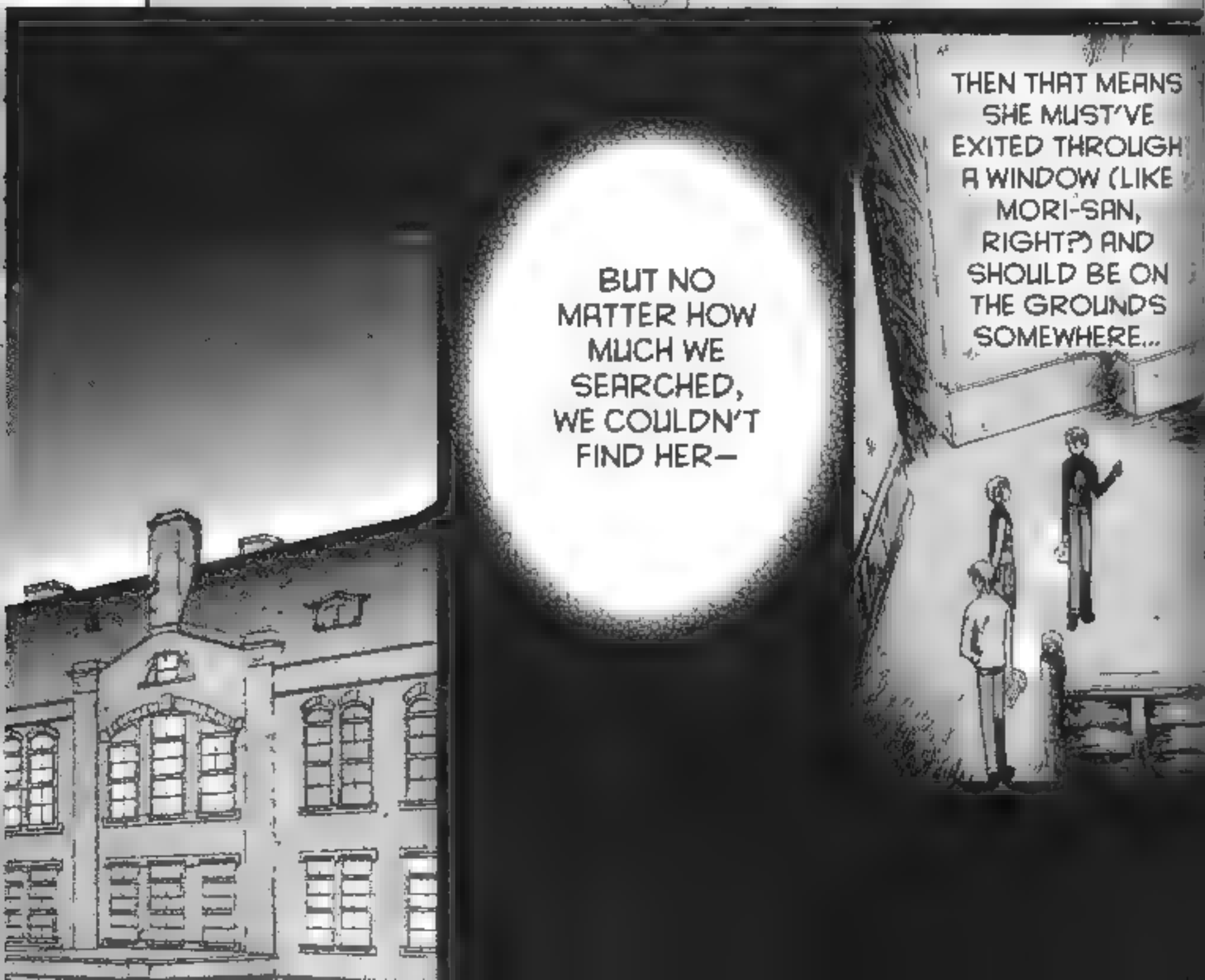
!
COME ON, LET'S GO FIND FUKUDA-SAN.
HOW DARE YOU!

WHAT AN IRRESPONSIBLE PRESIDENT, DESERTING AFTER ALL THAT'S HAPPENED.
DOES HE THINK THIS IS CHILD'S PLAY?



...SAID "I'M GOING FOR A LITTLE WALK," LEFT MINAMI-SAN'S BASE, AND THEN NEVER RETURNED.





THE MIDDLE SECTION IS OVER TWO METERS HIGHER THAN THE OUTLYING ONES.
EMPTY
THE FIRST FLOOR'S FOUNDATION ACTUALLY INCLINES UPWARD IN THE MIDDLE.
THIS MANSION WAS CONSTRUCTED WITH A HIGH MIDDLE SECTION.
THIS MANSION WAS BUILT IN THIS SHAPE FROM THE BEG NNING.
HMM
...THAT'S STRANGE.
YEAH
I COULD HAVE TOLD YOU THE MIDDLE WAS EMPTY.
I UNDER-STAND THAT PART, BUT...
IT SEEMS TO BE BUILT TO LOOK HUGE FROM THE OUTSIDE BY ITS ARRANGEMENT OF W NDOWS, EVEN THOUGH THE MIDDLE SECTION'S ROOMS ARE AS SMALL AS THOSE IN A SMALLER BUILDING.

WHAT IF THERE'S NOT A SECRET PASSAGE-WAY?

HUH?

MAYBE IT'S ANOTHER HIDDEN ROOM, AND THERE'S A SECRET PASSAGE-WAY SOMEWHERE TO GET IN.

WASN'T THERE AN ODD STAIRWELL TO THE SECOND FLOOR, AS IF IT WERE THERE FOR A CENTRAL COURTYARD?

!

BUT INSTEAD, A *SEALED-OFF* ROOM?

WHAT IF THAT EMPTY SPACE ISN'T ANOTHER HIDDEN ROOM AT ALL...

YAMAZOKU SPIRIT

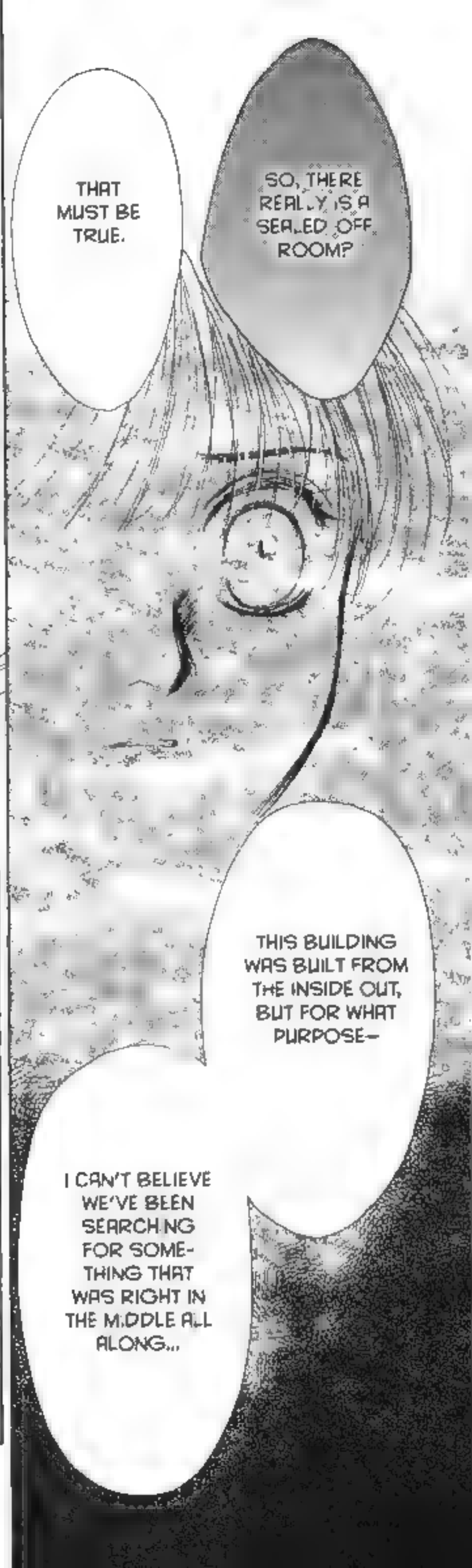
BUT THERE HASN'T BEEN ANY TRACE OF THIS.

...COULDN'T WE EXPECT TO SEE DISTURBED DUST, FOOT-PRINTS, AND SUCH?

IF THERE IS ONE IN THIS OLD DIRTY MANSION, AND THE PEOPLE WHO DISAPPEARED USED IT...

WE TRIED TO FIND A SECRET PASSAGE-WAY INTO IT.

IT IS POSSIBLE.
BUT WHAT COULD BE HIDDEN...
!


THAT MUST BE TRUE.
SO, THERE REALLY IS A SEALED OFF ROOM?
THIS BUILDING WAS BUILT FROM THE INSIDE OUT, BUT FOR WHAT PURPOSE—
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING THAT WAS RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE ALL ALONG...

...NO WAY! THERE?
THE ROOM THAT MAI SAW IN HER DREAM...?
THAT MUST BE IT. THAT PLACE REALLY EXISTS.
IF WE TRY INSPECTING THE WALLS NEXT TO IT, WE'LL KNOW.

KNOCK KNOCK

HUH!?

FOR REAL!?

THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA.

WE CAN'T JUST TEAR THEM DOWN, CAN WE?

B-BUT, HOW ARE WE GOING TO INSPECT THEM?

GREETINGS! WE'RE BACK TO REPORT OUR FINDINGS.

GOOD EVENING! ♡

YASUHARA-KUN WAS AMAZING!

WHAT'S WITH THE ATTITUDE...

WOW

ABASHED

WELL, WE THOUGHT WE SHOULD REPORT BACK IMMEDIATELY.

OH, RIGHT. SORRY ABOUT THAT.

TELL US WHY YOU CAME HERE.

THAT'S RIGHT, BECAUSE I'M EFFICIENT.

TODAY WAS SO PRODUCTIVE.

GRIN

GRIN

GRIN

GRIN

...BUT I THOUGHT THERE WERE ONLY TEN OR ELEVEN WHEN WE INSPECTED THE PREMISES ON THE INSIDE.
IT WAS ELEVEN.
THEN THERE'S ONE MORE.
REALLY.
ACTUALLY, WHILE WE WERE STILL HEADING INTO THE CITY, I CAME UP WITH THE IDEA OF COUNTING THE CHIMNEYS ON THIS MANSION.
I CAME UP WITH TWELVE...
AHEM
SO! BEING THE SMART PERSON I AM, I TOOK PROPER PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE.
IT WAS WIDER THAN THE OTHERS
SO WHEN WE LOOKED CLOSER, THE CHIMNEY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE HOUSE LOOKED ODD.
IT IS IN THE MIDDLE.
SOMETHING MUST BE THERE...
WOW
TAKE A LOOK...

URK

WE TRIED GOING TO THE MIYAMAS' MAIN RESIDENCE.

SO...

WHAT IF THEY SAW YOU?

SOMETHING—

"...BUT THIS KANEYUKI PERSON HATED PEOPLE AND WAS VERY ECCENTRIC."

"THIS IS A STORY I HEARD FROM MY FATHER...

"...BUT WHEN HE WAS ANGRY, HE WOULD CHASE PEOPLE AROUND."

"WHEN HE WAS KIND, HE WOULD DO THINGS FOR PEOPLE...

WHENEVER POSSIBLE, WE SPOKE WITH THE OLDEST NEIGHBORS.

WE ASKED AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND HEARD VARIOUS STORIES.

"—HUH.

"KANEYUKI MIYAMA-SAN, RIGHT...?"

"I HEARD IT WAS JUST A FRONT TO CONCEAL ALL THE TERRIBLE THINGS HE DID."

"BUT HIS HEART WASN'T INTO IT.

"APPARENTLY HE DID CHARITY WORK...

APPARENTLY...

KANEYUKI-SHI WAS PHYSICALLY WEAK WHEN HE WAS YOUNG.

WELL, FOR THE MOST PART, I DIDN'T EDIT THE SURVEY RESULTS COLLECTED BY MORI-SAN.

SUPPOSEDLY HE WAS JUST SIGHTSEEING, BUT PEOPLE SAY HE WAS ACTUALLY VISITING FOREIGN DOCTORS.

HE OFTEN MEANDERED ABROAD...

SINCE CHILDHOOD, HE'D BEEN TOLD THAT HE WOULDN'T LIVE FOR VERY LONG.

OH

AFTER THAT, KANEYUKI-SAN APPARENTLY LIVED HERE...

MEANDERED ABROAD?

HE TRAVELED TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

SIMPLY PUT.

...TWO...
...MENSERVANTS...
BA-DUM

BUT HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY TWO MENSERVANTS.

THEY APPARENTLY MADE A LABYRINTH OUT OF HEDGES.
BA-DUM

THEY DID EVERY-THING HERE AT THE TIME.
THEY WERE OLD GARDENERS WHO THE GRAND-FATHER ALLOWED TO GO IN AND OUT AS THEY PLEASED.
THAT'S WHO THEY WERE.

WHENEVER THE GARDENERS CAME HERE, PEOPLE EXPERIENCED STRANGE, NAUSEATING FEELINGS.
...BETWEEN THE MAIN W NG AND A COTTAGE.
THE LABYRINTH SUPPOSEDLY COVERED THE GAP...
...A HEDGE...
...A HEDGE LABYRINTH...
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR...
...NO...
THERE WAS A NAUSEATING ODOR IN THAT COTTAGE, LIKE THE ONE THAT'S ALWAYS AT A GRAVEYARD.
BA-DUM
BA-DUM
...THIS STORY ANY-MORE...!
...AMONG THE MAIDS WHO CAME HERE.
MOREOVER, THERE WERE ALWAYS NEW FACES...
DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY MORE.
BA-DUM
BA-DUM
BA-DUM
BA-DUM

SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
SHIVER
—TANIYAMA-SAN?
...THESE PEOPLE CAN'T COME.
THEY CAN'T SAVE YOU.
MA...
WAVE
NOW, KEEP GOING...
DON'T BE AFRAID, JUST TRY GOING TOWARD THE LIGHT
YOU MUST RELAX...
FOR YOU HAVE ALREADY DIED.

GRIN
UH...
WOBBLE
WHOOOSH
MAYBE THEY'RE THE MAIDS WE WERE JUST DISCUSSING.
BUT THEY DEFINITELY APPROACHED YOU BECAUSE OF THAT STORY YASUHARA WAS TELLING.
YOU'VE BEEN POSSESSED BY THE SPIRITS LIVING IN THIS HOUSE.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE THE ONES WHO DISAPPEARED ALREADY...
IT'S THAT PERSON...

THAT DREAM...

IT IS THAT PERSON...

THAT WAS THE MEMORY OF A SPIRIT.

IT'S THAT PERSON FROM LAST NIGHT...

THAT FEELING OF FRAILTY...

THE ONE IN MY DREAM WHO WAS MURDERED.

THAT FEELING OF BEING MURDERED...

FOR THAT PERSON, IT WAS REALITY.

FOR ME, IT WAS A DREAM...

"HELP ME"

"I DON'T WANT TO DIE."

...HAUNTS THIS HOUSE?

IS THAT THE REASON THIS MURDERED SPIRIT...

IS THAT SO?

KYAAAAAAA

BAM

KYAAAAAAA

BAM

BAM

UH

IS THIS REALLY HAPPENING !?

NA-

NARU...

SHOCK

IT'S MOVING!

THAT RAPPING NOISE IS TOO LOUD ..

BAM

KYAAAAAAA

WHAT...

BHAM

BAM

KYAAAAAAA

KYAAAAAAA

OF COURSE, THAT WAS THE VOICE OF THE SPIRIT.

WHOOOSH

BLINK

WHAT THE...
NO WAY...
OH.
KLCK!
DON'T WANT TO DIE
HELP
I'M SCARED
IT HURTS
I DON'T WANT TO DIE
HELP
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS!?
HELP
IT HURTS
I'M SCARED
I DON'T WANT TO DIE
HELP

GHOST HUNT

— THE BLOODSTAINED LABYRINTH —

FILE 7

DID...

HELP

IT HURTS

I'M SCARED

"

I'M SCARED

DIE

IT HU

DID THE SPIRITS DO THIS?

HELP

HELP

I DON'T WANT TO DIE

HELP

IT HURTS

I'M SCARED

HELP

IT

NARU! !

HELP

I DON'T WANT

—DI...

WHY IS URADO'S NAME...

HEY, OVER HERE!

I DON'T WANT TO DIE

URADO

I'M SCARED.

HELP

IT HURTS

URADO

URADO

I'M SCA

THAT'S...

IT HURTS

URADO

E

HELP

OH!

STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP

WATCH YOUR BACKS!

WILL DO! ♡

SOMEONE'S COMING. YASUHARA-KUN, WE'D BETTER LEAVE.

MADOKA! IT'S DANGEROUS TO GO OUT.

NARU, SEE YOU TOMORROW, OKAY?

WHAT...

WHY ARE YOU SO STRESSED, MAI?

MONK-SAN, HOW COULD YOU SAY SOMETHING SO FLIPPANT!

STOMP

STOMP

STOMP

WHAT WAS IT, OHASHI-SAN?

OF COURSE, IT HAPPENED HERE TOO...

AH...

ARE... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?

WHAM!

THAT—

SUDDENLY, THAT STRANGE WRITING WAS SCRAWLED...

...IN BLOOD ALL OVER THE MANSION.

I DON'T GET WHAT THIS MEANS.

"...ALL DIE _LISTEN TO_ URADO..."

I THINK THE WORD "URADO" HAS ANOTHER MEANING.

IS THIS WHAT THE SPIRITS IN THIS HOUSE ARE TRYING TO SAY?

I'M THINKING IT'S A PEN NAME.

HARA-SAN...

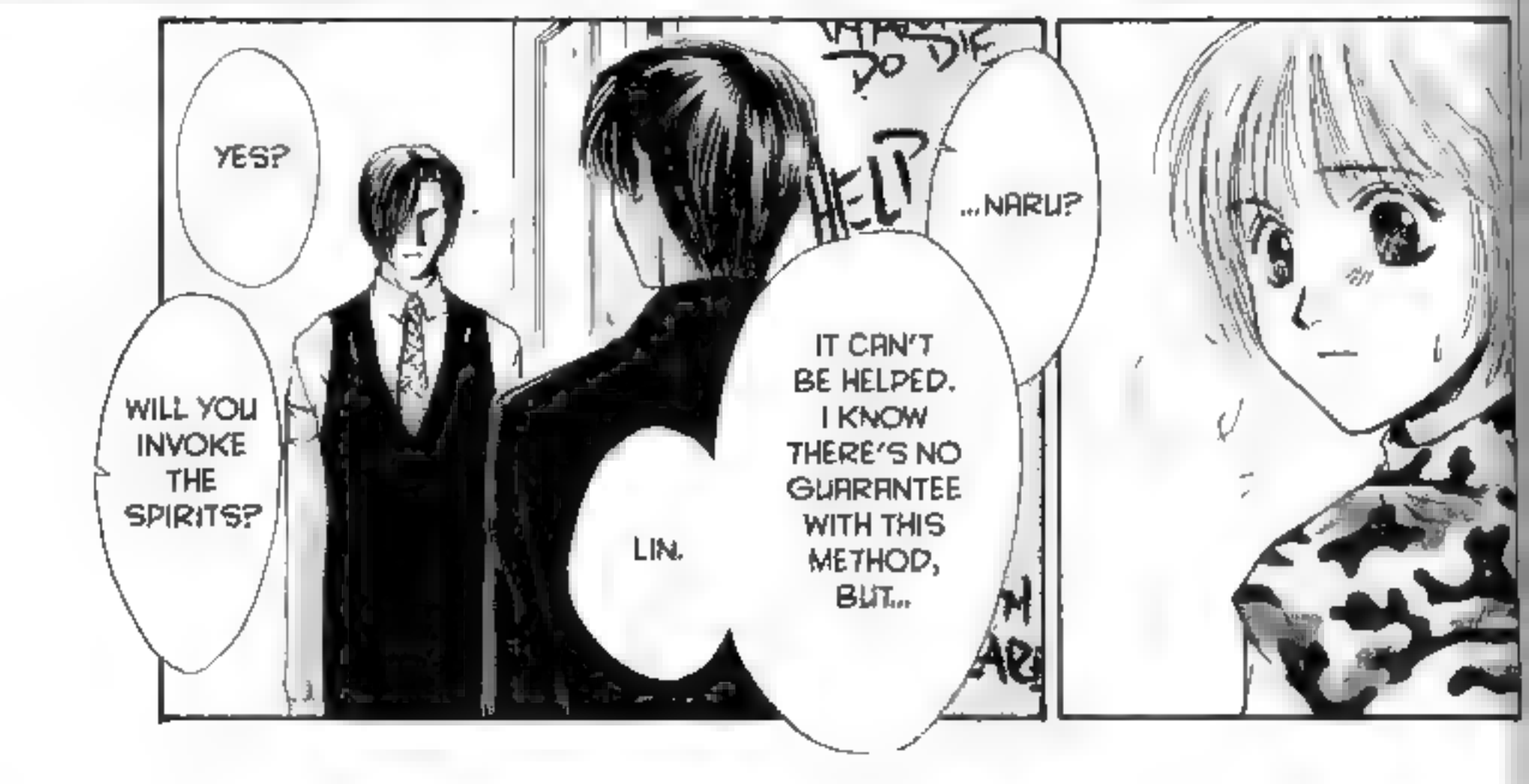
...I DO...
DO YOU FEEL UP TO PERFORMING A SEANCE?
WE CAN'T DO THAT! SHE'LL GO THROUGH THE SAME DISTURBING EMOTIONS I WENT THROUGH IN MY DREAM!
MAI...
HEY...WAIT A MINUTE!
YOU WANT TO INVITE A SPIRIT INTO MASAKO?
HELP
HELP
HELP
HELP
GLARE
MAI!
PRO OR NOT, NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO EXPERIENCE THAT!
MAI, HARA-SAN IS A PROFESSIONAL.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO DIE, NARU?

DO YOU UNDERSTAND HOW FRAGILE WE ARE!?

CAN YOU IMAGINE THE MOMENT YOU DIE?

I REFUSE TO ALLOW MASAKO TO BE POSSESSED!



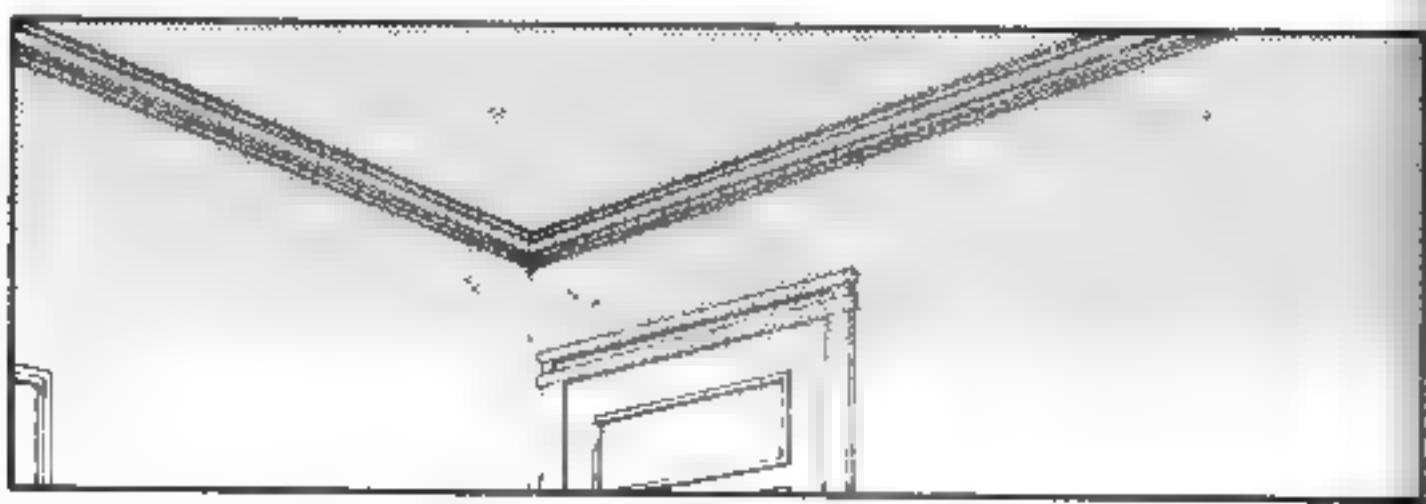
STILL, NARU...
DON'T WORRY. I'LL TRY ONLY INVOKING THE SPIRITS.
BECAUSE I'M NOT A MEDIUM, SPIRITS WON'T BE ABLE TO POSSESS ME.
IT HURT
HELP
LIN-SAN!
LET'S TRY IT.
THAT'LL DO.
LET'S TRY IT
THE ONLY ONES I CAN SUMMON NOW...
I CAN'T INVOKE THE SPIRITS OF THOSE KILLED HERE IN THE PAST.
MONK-SAN, JOHN, HELP US OUT
LET'S SET UP THE CAMERAS.
SURE.
...ARE THOSE THREE MISSING PERSONS WHO ARE PRESUMED DEAD.

IT WAS LIKE...

...THE WORST FEELING EVER.

...JUST THEN... THAT LOOK I SAW ON NARU'S FACE FOR JUST A MOMENT.

...WHAT WAS THAT...



HN...
LET'S SEE...
HAVING THE SPIRIT "POSSESS" YOU, OR HAVING IT "VISIT" YOU.
THERE ARE TWO WAYS IT CAN BE DONE.
HMM?
HOW IS LIN-SAN GOING TO INVOKE THE SPIRITS?
HEY...
HMMM.
BY THE WAY, MASAKO DOES IT BY "POSSESSION."
WHOA!
HE CAN DO THAT!?
IT'S NOT UNUSUAL TO BE ABLE TO.
HA HA!
BUT OF COURSE, HE'LL BE VISITED BY THEM.
LIN WON'T BE POSSESSED BY ANY SPIRITS.

ARE YOU FROM CHINA?
ORIGINALLY HONG KONG
IF THAT'S TRUE...
LIN-SAN IS DOING IT SINCE HE'S CHINESE.
"SPIRIT INVOCATION" ORIGINATED AS A METHOD OF ENCHANTMENT IN CHINA CALLED *SHOUKON.*
THE ABILITIES OF TAOISTS ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
"SPIRIT POSSESSION" IS CALLED *SETSUKON.* *SHOUKON* IS SAID TO BE OLDER THAN *SETSUKON.*
HUH?
WE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT LIN WAS A DIVINER, BUT NOW WE'RE TOLD HE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT.
NOW WE THINK HE'S PROBABLY A TAOIST OF CHINESE SORCERY.
THAT WAS RUDE.
WHOA!
YOU MEAN LIN-SAN IS MORE POWERFUL THAN MASAKO!?

IT'S NOT EASY TO DO IT RIGHT...

HMMPH!

BUT IF LIN CAN HEAR THE SPIRITS' VOICES, THEN ISN'T HE ALL WE NEED...

I-I'M SORRY. I WASN'T TRYING TO BE MEAN.

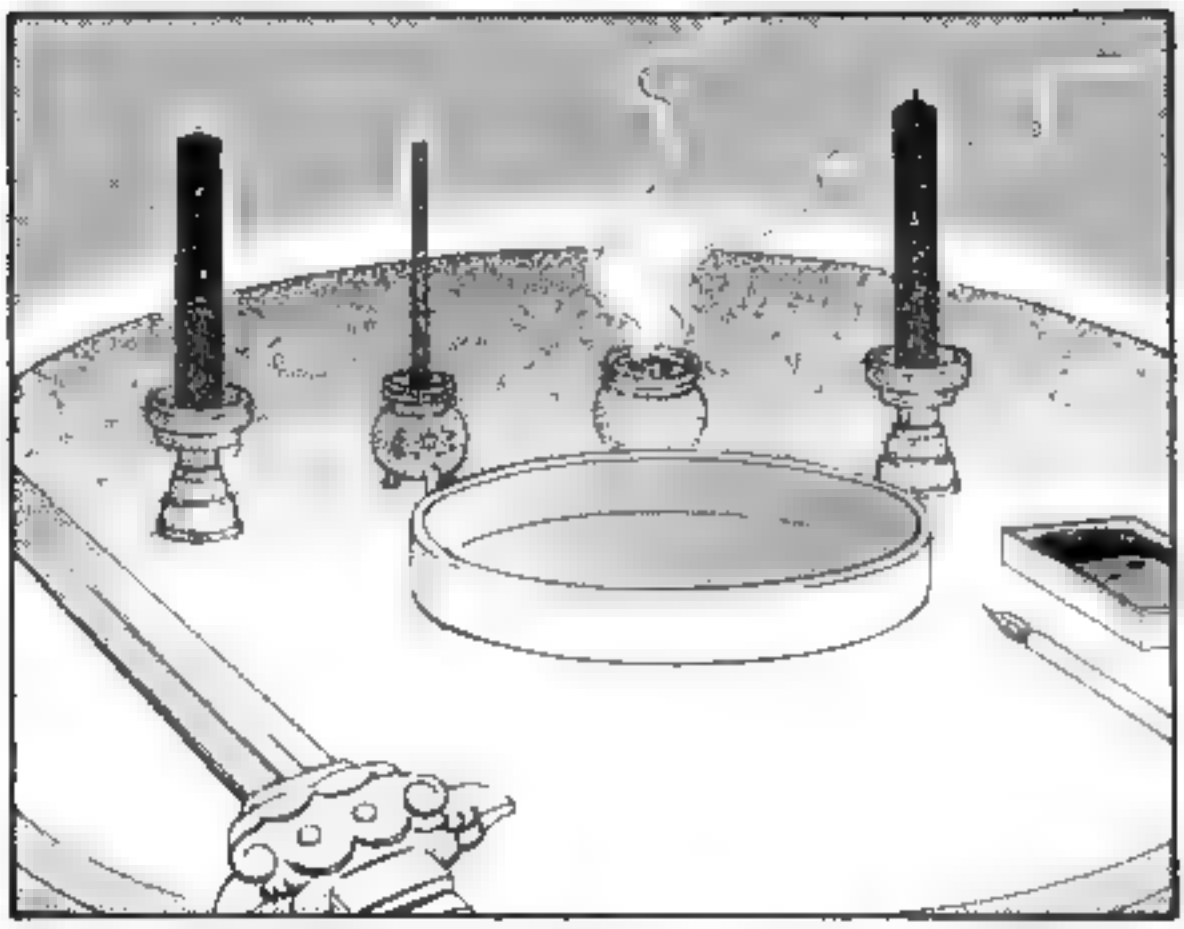
WHICH WE HAVE FOR THOSE THREE PEOPLE.

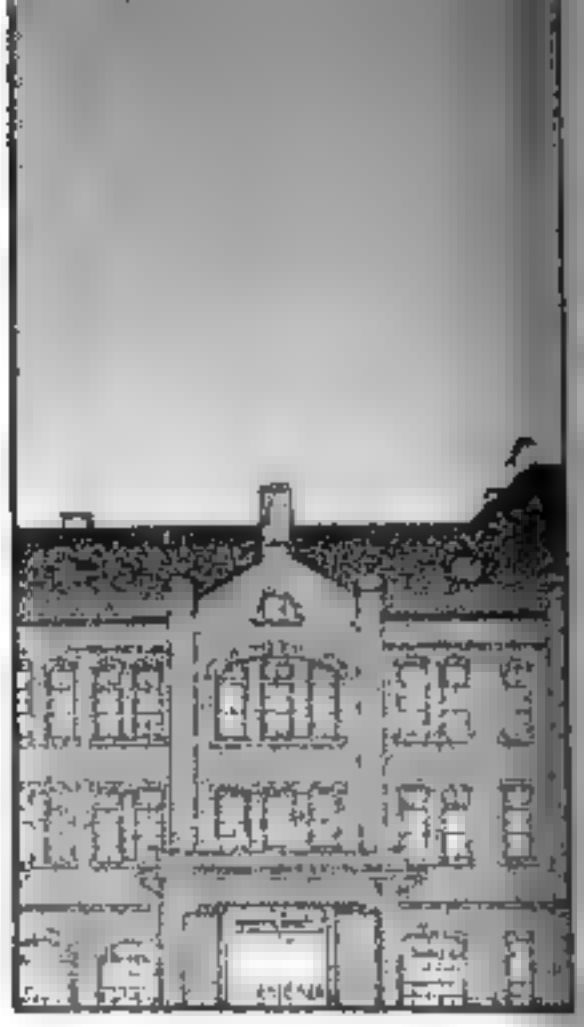
YOU DEFINITELY NEED THE NAME, BIRTH DATE, AND OTHER DETAILED DATA OF THE RAISED SPIRITS IN *SHOUKON*.

I SEE... WELL, IF THEY DON'T RE-SPOND, THAT'S GOOD. THAT MEANS THEY'RE STILL ALIVE.

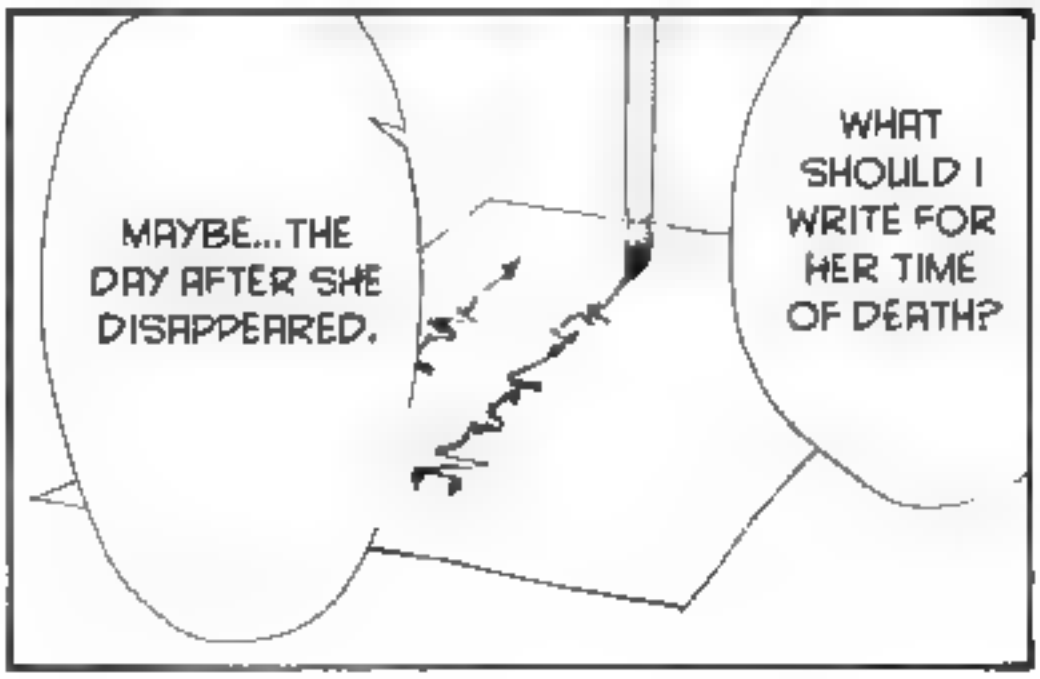
IF THEY'RE DEAD... RIGHT?

DIDN'T LIN-SAN ALSO SAY THAT? THAT HE WAS ONLY CALLING THOSE THREE SPIRITS?





NAOKO SUZUKI-SAN.
HERE'S HER PROFILE AND SOME CLOTHING THEY LENT US.
WHO SHOULD I RAISE?


MAYBE...THE DAY AFTER SHE DISAPPEARED.
WHAT SHOULD I WRITE FOR HER TIME OF DEATH?

KLATTER
カタン

FLCK
LET US BEGIN
YURA

SUU

GULP

—WHOA...

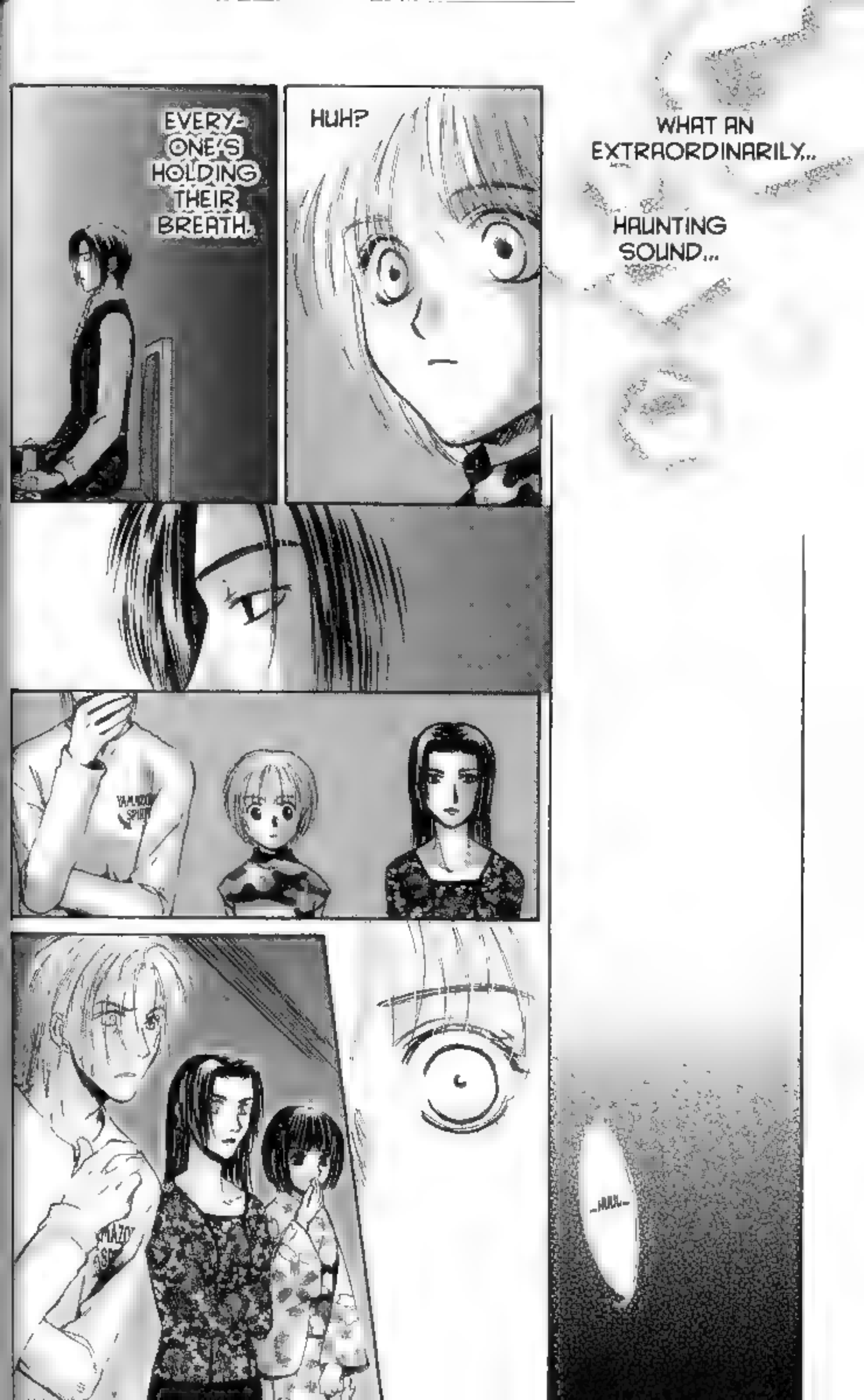
WHA...WHAT IS THAT SOUND?

UWAA

IT SOUNDS LIKE A FLUTE...BUT DIFFERENT. WHAT A STRANGE SOUND...

THAT WAS—

—FROM LIN-SAN...?


EVERY-ONE'S HOLDING THEIR BREATH.
HUH?
WHAT AN EXTRAORDINARILY...
HAUNTING SOUND...
-HAAA-

I CAN'T SPEAK WITH THEM, AND I'M NOT RAISING THEM.
NARU, I DON'T THINK IT'S A GOOD DAY.
...SU-

IT'S NAOKO SUZUKI.
SUZUKI-SAN...
SHE DIED...
BESIDES YOU...
...IS THERE ANYONE ELSE IN THIS HOUSE?

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

YOU AND THE OTHERS HAVE ALREADY DIED.

BESIDES US, IGARASHI-SENSEI...

NOD

...AND THE MEDIUMS, IS THERE ANY-ONE ELSE?

SUZUKI-SAN DIDN'T EVEN KNOW...

...ABOUT HER OWN DEATH...

WAS IT SOMEONE BESIDES US?

WHO WAS THAT?

DID SOME-ONE DO SOMETHING TERRIBLE TO YOU?

DO YOU KNOW WHY YOU DIED?

SHOCK
URADO...
DO YOU KNOW THAT PERSON?
DO YOU KNOW HIM?

NARU
WE'VE REACHED THE LIMIT.
BHAM!
GYAAA!

FLCK!
BLINK

—IF SO...

MAYBE...

SUZUKI-SAN JUST WROTE IT...?

THEN MAYBE "LRADO" IS REALLY "VURADO"...!

BUT IF LRADO IS VURADO...

...WHAT IS VURADO...?

...VURADO IS...

...THE VAMPIRE... DRACULA.

...WHA—

VURADO

WHAT'S... THAT...?

DOES THAT MEAN THAT KANEYUKI IS A VAMPIRE?
B-
BUT ISN'T URADO KANEYUKI'S PEN NAME?
DRACULA WASN'T PRECISELY A VAMPIRE.
CALM DOWN, MAI.
THEN THE SPIRITS HERE ARE THE DEAD PEOPLE WHOSE BLOOD HE DRANK?
BUT THIS DRACULA HAD A MODEL BY THE SAME NAME THAT EXISTED IN REAL LIFE.
THAT WAS *DRACULA*, PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR BRAM STOKER IN THE 19TH CENTURY.
DRACULA'S IMAGE AS A VAMPIRE CAME FROM A NOVEL.

HE WAS A MAN NAMED VLAD TEPES.

BUT THE ONE THAT ONCE EXISTED WAS NO VAMPIRE.

THAT'S RIGHT.

D-

DRACULA ACTUALLY EXISTED?

THIS MAN NAMED VLAD—

VURADO...

VURADO

HE WAS CALLED *THE IMPALER* FOR MERCILESSLY EXECUTING AND IMPALING HIS CITIZENS WHO LIED OR STOLE, AND ENEMIES WHO INVADED HIS COUNTRY.

VLAD HAD A FASTIDIOUS YET CRUEL PERSONALITY.

TEPES IS USUALLY TRANSLATED AS *THE IMPALER.*

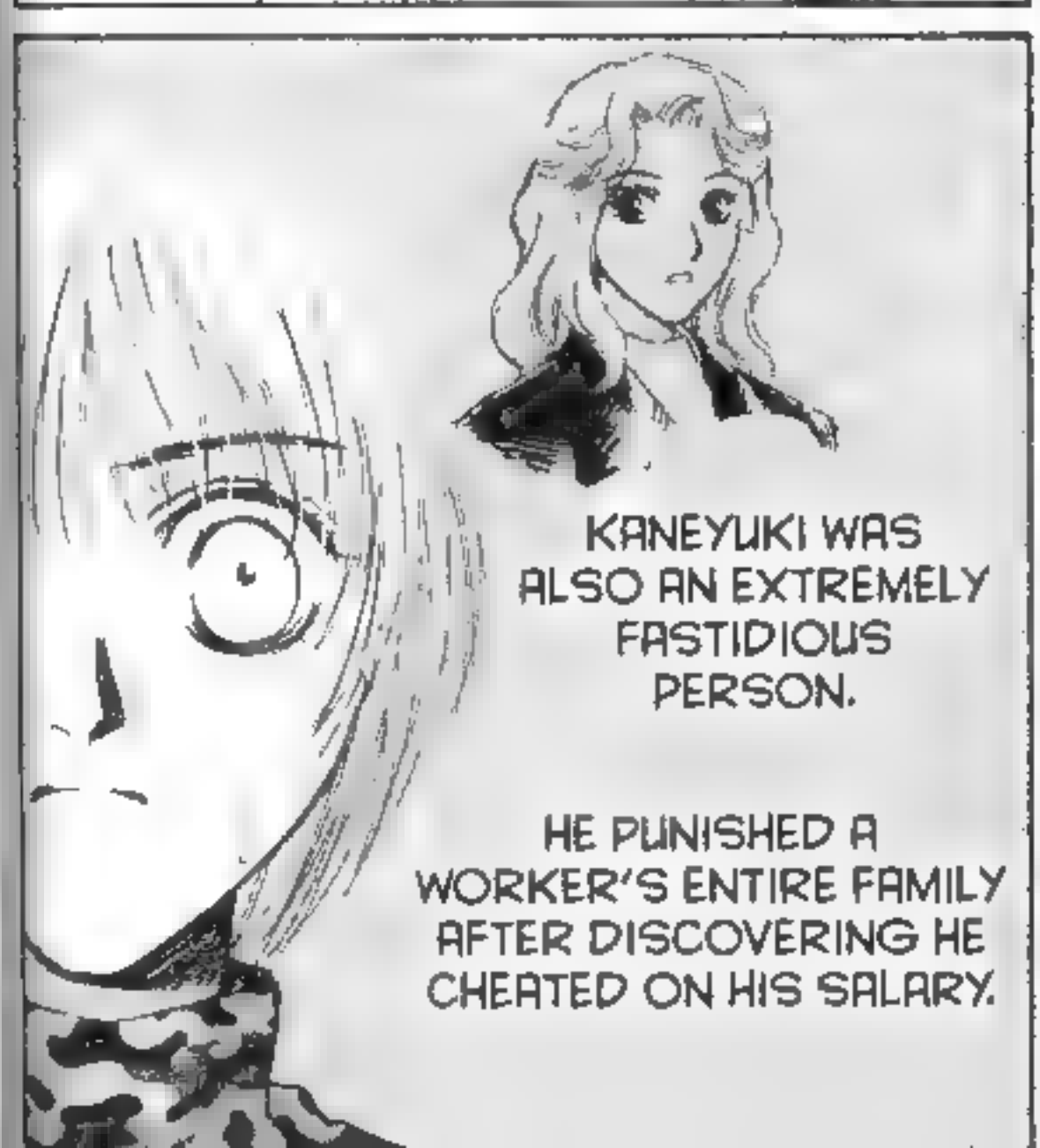
—WAS A KING WHO RULED THE REGION OF WALLACHIA IN EASTERN EUROPE DURING THE 15TH CENTURY.

"DRACUL" MEANS "DRAGON"... IT CAN ALSO MEAN "DEVIL."

VLAD'S FATHER WAS CALLED "VLAD DRACUL."

IMPALING...

H-HOW DID THIS VLAD BECOME DRACULA?



VLAD IS OFTEN CONFUSED WITH A HUNGARIAN COUNTESS NAMED ELIZABETH BÁTHORY.

AND ONE MORE THING.

THERE'S NO DOUBT HE WOULD HAVE KNOWN ABOUT IT.

AT THE TIME KANEYUKI HAD TRAVELED ABROAD, DRACULA HAD ALREADY BEEN PUBLISHED.

THEN SHE SOAKED HER BODY IN IT.

SO SHE MURDERED YOUNG GIRLS AND FILLED A BATHTUB WITH THEIR BLOOD.

SHE FEARED THE DETERIORATION OF HER BEAUTY.

...IN MY DREAM...

A BATHTUB OF BLOOD.

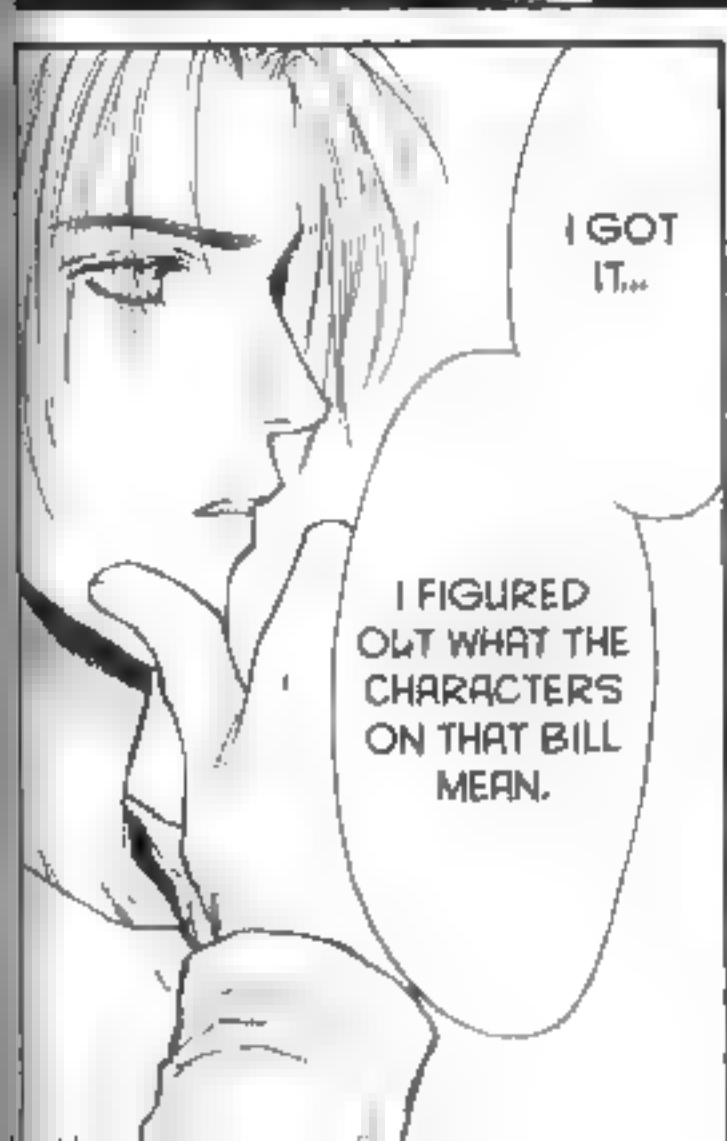
THAT WAS...

SHE BELIEVED THAT DOING THIS WOULD PRESERVE HER BEAUTY.

I THINK HE COULDN'T STAND THE POOR HEALTH OF HIS BODY.

IT'S VERY LIKELY THAT KANEYUKI KNEW THIS STORY.

HE PROBABLY THOUGHT THE BLOOD OF YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD PRESERVE HIS HEALTH, JUST LIKE ELIZABETH DID.



"THOSE WHO CAME HERE ARE ALL DYING."

"LISTEN TO THOSE WRADO MURDERED GET OUT!"

WOULD IT BE ODD FOR THE MAIDS TO HAVE IT?

OR DID IT ACTUALLY BELONG TO THE PEOPLE WHO TRAPPED THE MAIDS IN THE SECRET ROOM?

NO WAY...

DID IT COME FROM THE HOSPITAL STAFF...?

—I...

HE MURDERED PEOPLE...

JUST BECAUSE HE WANTED TO SAVE HIMSELF.../

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.../

SO HE CONSTANTLY RETROFITTED THIS BUILDING TO SEAL THE ROOM IN.

POSSIBLY.

WHAT HIS OWN FATHER WAS DOING HERE?

NOW...

...DO YOU THINK HIROYUKI-SHI KNEW ABOUT THIS?

THE GRUDGES OF THE PEOPLE HIS FATHER MURDERED—

"SO THE SPIRITS WOULDN'T ESCAPE."

HE HID IT DEEP IN THE HEART OF THIS MANSION.

HUH?

MAYBE IT'S POSSIBLE...

—HEY...

KANEYUKI IS DEAD...SO WHY ARE THERE STILL YOUNG PEOPLE DISAPPEARING?

AND THAT CONCERNS ME.

HE FIGURED OUT THE SECRET TO A LONGER LIFE.

.. AND AS A RESULT, HE IS STILL HERE.

BY KILLING OTHERS, HE BRINGS LIFE TO HIMSELF...

I DON'T WANT TO DIE.

DRIPPP

SUZUKI-SAN DIED.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT KANEYUKI—*URADO*—IS THE ONLY EVIL SPIRIT.

IF THE PEOPLE KILLED ARE THE SPIRITS LIVING IN THIS HOUSE...

—/—

DRIPPP

PERHAPS...

IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE SPIRITS OF THE PEOPLE KILLED HERE IN THE DISAPPEARANCES.

I DON'T WANT TO DIE

VLAD IS HERE.

IN THIS HOUSE... STILL.

FROM HERE...

...HE'S HUNTING FOR SACRIFICES.

GHOST HUNT

— THE BLOODSTAINED LABYRINTH —

FILE 8

I DON'T WANT
TO DIE.

I'M SCARED
WHY DO I HAVE TO DIE
HELP
I DON'T WANT TO DIE
IT HURTS THIS BODY
HELP
I'M SCARED
I DON'T WANT TO DIE
I CAN'T DO THIS
WHY DO I HAVE TO DIE
HELP ME
HELP
I DON'T WANT TO DIE

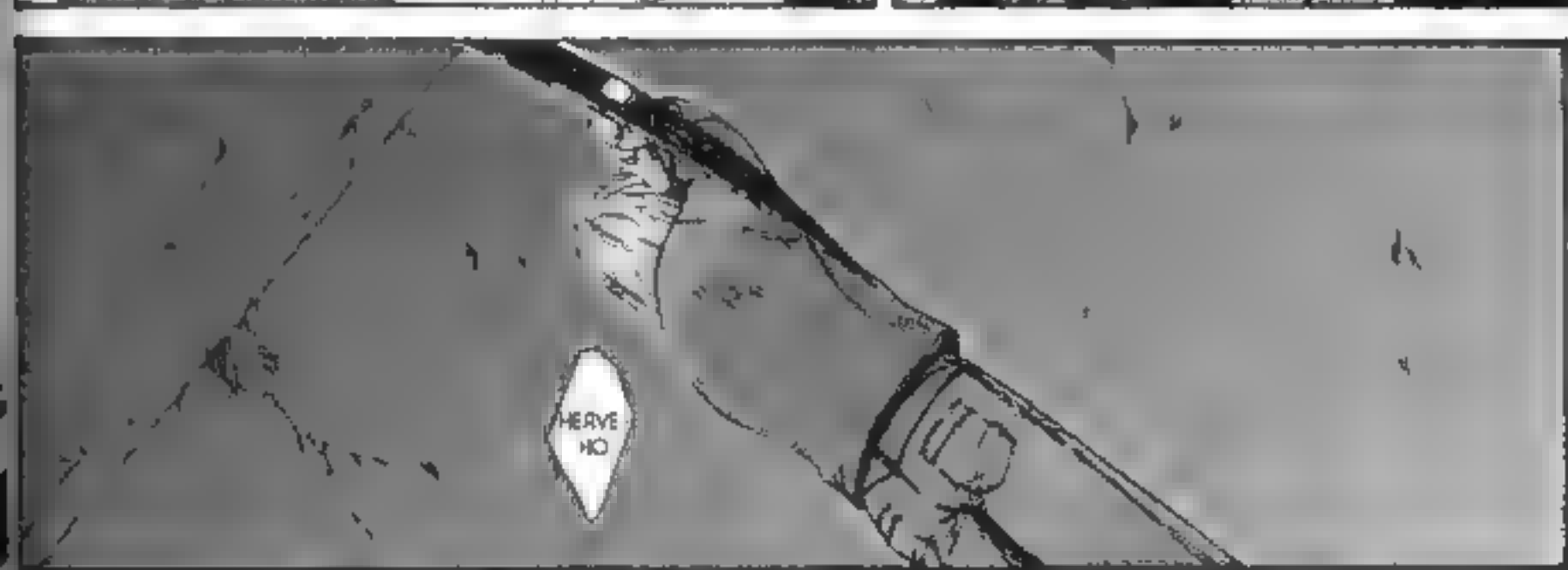
I DON'T WANT TO DIE

THAT'S STRANGE. THIS IS WHERE THE HUGE CHIMNEY SHOULD BE!

—OH!

ALL RIGHT.
WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO BREAK THROUGH HERE.

THIS WALL IS THE WEAKEST.


HEAVE HO

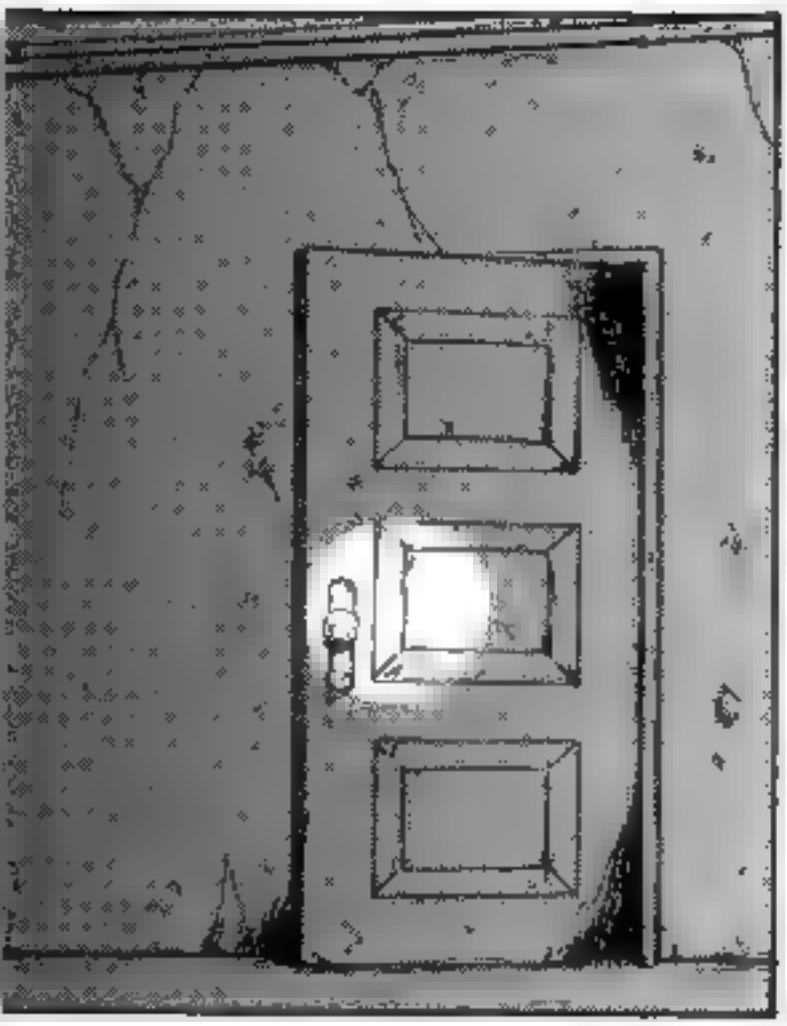
BAM!
BAM!
BAM!
THAT'S UNBELIEVABLY LOUD

BASH!

I'LL TAKE YOUR PLACE
THANKS.
BAM!
BAM!
BAM!
BAM!
SORRY, MY HANDS ARE FULL.
WEREN'T YOU TAKING MY PLACE, NARU-CHAN?
HEY
HUH
CRASH!
HOW'S THAT, YOU JERK...
THERE...!

...WHAT'S THAT?
IT LOOKS LIKE A SCHOOL INCINERATOR.
LET'S SCOPE IT OUT FIRST WITH AN INFRARED CAMERA.
LET'S GO IN.
.....

TADDP



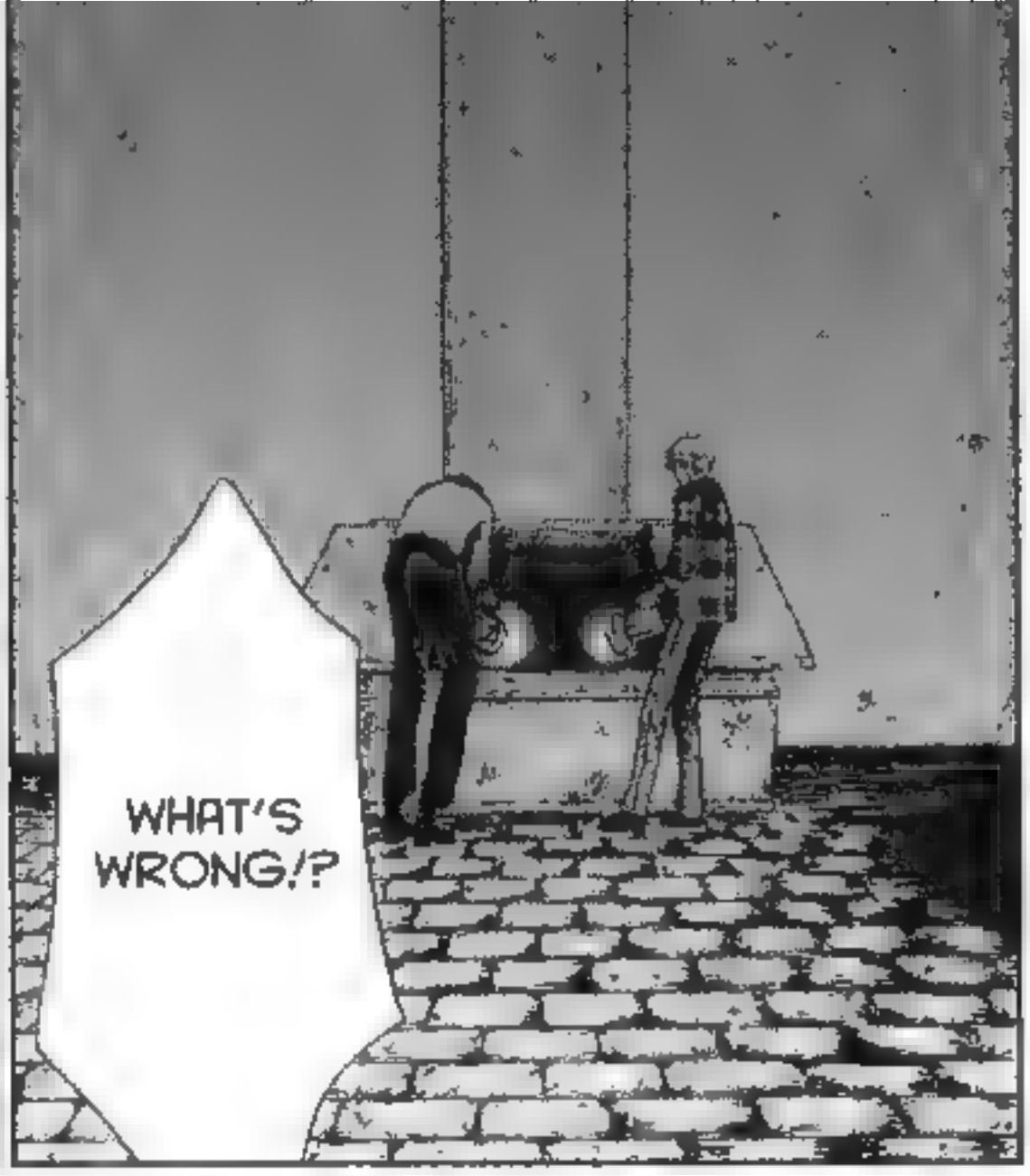
THERE'S A DOOR.
WHAT THE HE... IS THAT.
...HIDEOUS SMELL

CLATTER

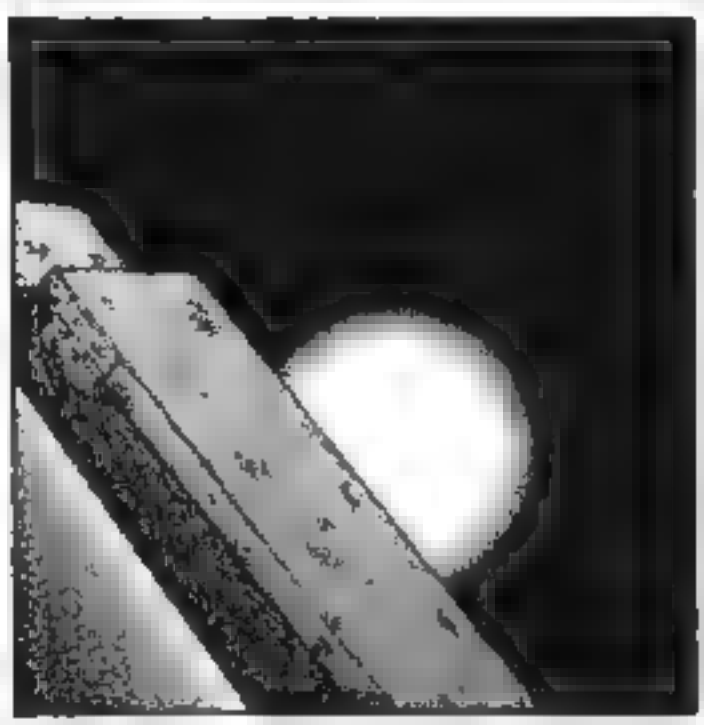
THEY'RE FILLED WITH COAL.
...WHOA!
THERE ARE SOME WOODEN BOXES... HM...
THREE OF THEM.

THE WINDOWS HERE ARE ALSO SEALED FROM THE OUTSIDE.
TAPPP
TAPPP
...IT'S BLOCKED OFF.

HEY, JOHN!?
LOOK INSIDE...


WHAT'S WRONG!?

—OH, MAN...



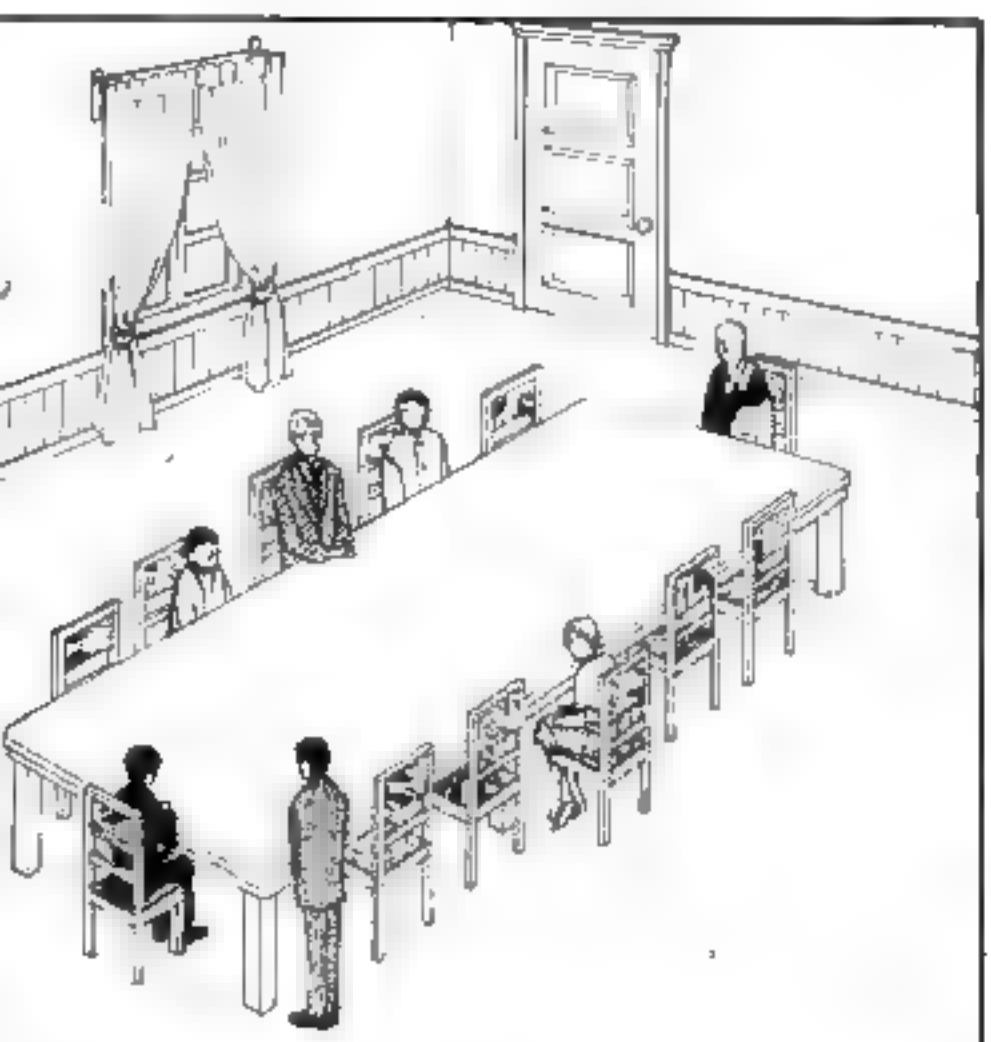
WE SHOULD CALL THE POLICE.

POLICE ...?

WHY!?

WHAT WAS ALL THE SHOUTING JUST NOW? WHAT HAPPENED?

NARU!



WE FOUND CORPSES.

THERE ARE...
...CORPSES...?
YOU TOLD SENSEI TO CALL THE POLICE.
I SEE...
...BUT...
I THINK THEY'RE PROBABLY THE TWO WHO DISAPPEARED IN FEBRUARY.
WEST OF THE BUILDING.
...OH, MY!
...UM...
WHERE WERE THEY?
TAPPP
TAPPP
TAPPP

IT'S AMAZING! IT'S JUST LIKE THE DOCTOR SAID.
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT, IGARASHI-SENSEI?
WHEN I ASKED ABOUT THE MISSING PERSONS' WHEREABOUTS, HE SAID WEST OF HERE.
THE DOCTOR TOLD ME BEFORE.
DID YOU HEAR ME?
...SENSEI.
IT'S JUST AS HE PREDICTED.

I DON'T THINK THERE'S REALLY MUCH HOPE FOR THE SURVIVAL OF THE OTHERS.
BESIDES THE TWO MISSING PERSONS WHO DIED IN FEBRUARY—
YOU'RE SAYING SHE'S DEAD?
...THEN SUZUKI-SAN...
NOT JUST SUZUKI-SAN...
.. BUT PROBABLY ATSUGI-SAN AND FUKUDA-SAN, TOO.

CREEAAK

I CAN'T PUT MY OWN LIFE IN DANGER FOR THOSE MISSING!

...I'M LEAVING!

THEN, THAT MEANS...

IMURA-SAN!

UMM, MR. PRESIDENT...

SHOULD WE LEAVE, TOO?

YES!

VERY WELL, I AGREE.

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!

SO, DOCTOR...

WASN'T THAT A REALLY LONG TIME AGO? SURELY, THEY JUST LOST THEIR WAY.

B-BUT...THE DISAPPEAR-ANCES IN FEBRUARY...

THEY COULDN'T HAVE LOST THEIR WAY INTO THAT ROOM.

IT'S COMPLETELY SEALED OFF FROM THE OUTSIDE.

WE HAD TO ENTER BY BREAKING A HOLE THROUGH THE WALL.

IF THEY HAD JUST LOST THEIR WAY, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN IN THERE.

THAT GUY...
BUT WHAT IF WE'RE ONLY ADDING OURSELVES TO THE VICTIM LIST?
IF WE COULD FIND THEM SAFE AND SOUND, SURE.
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HELP SEARCH FOR ATSUGI-SAN AND FUKUDA-SAN!?
PLEASE STAY, DOCTOR.
P-
PLEASE...
USE ALL YOUR ABILITIES TO LOOK FOR SUZUKI-SAN!
WE NEED YOUR HELP
PLEASE...

I'M NOT HIM.

I..

I BEG YOU...

...DR. DAVIS!

I'M NOT DAVIS!

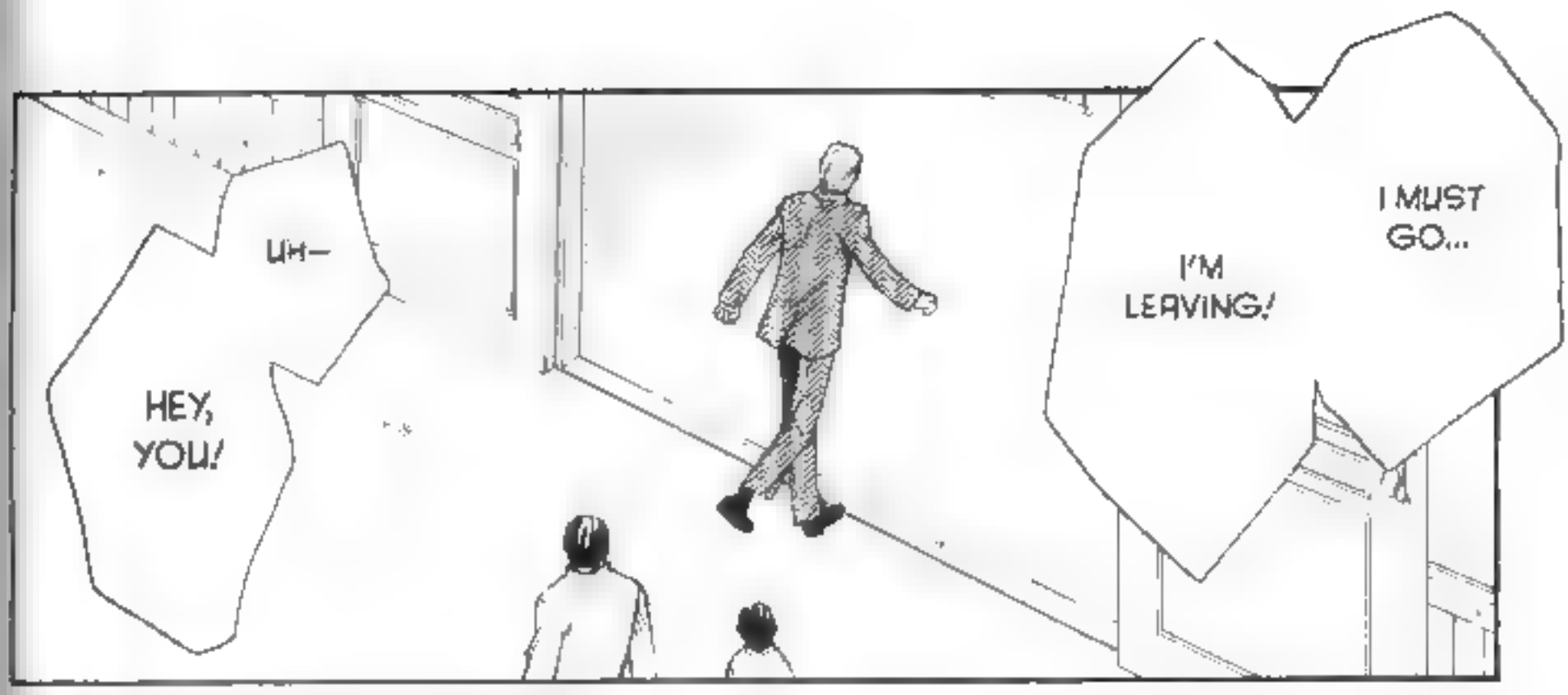
MINAMI-SAN JUST TOLD ME, "SAY YOU'RE DAVIS."

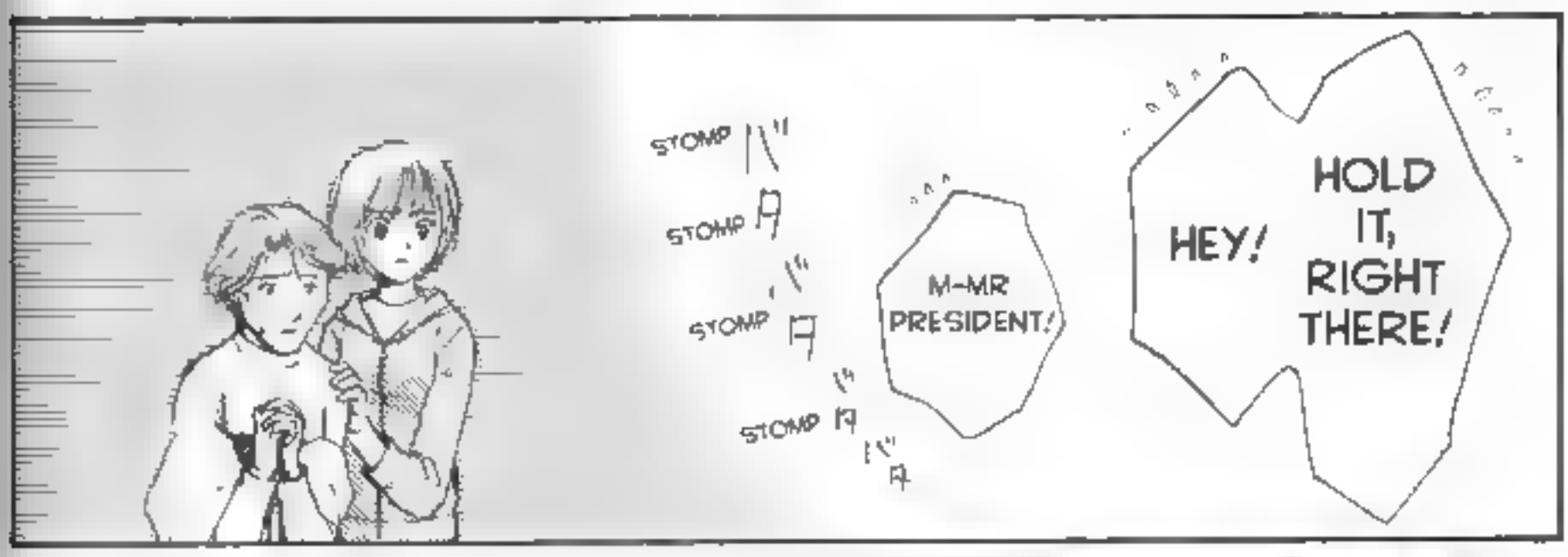
WHEN I SAID "WEST" I WAS JUST MAKING THAT UP.

.....

AND I'M NOT A DOCTOR.

MY NAME IS RAYMOND WALL.


UH—
HEY, YOU!
I'M LEAVING!
I MUST GO...


STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
M-MR PRESIDENT!
HEY!
HOLD IT, RIGHT THERE!

IGARASHI-SENSEI.

NO
OH NO...!

PULL IT TOGETHER!
WELL, I KNEW ALL ALONG.
SIGH

HUH!?

WE SHOULD PULL OUT, TOO.

THIS HOUSE IS TOO DANGEROUS.

I THINK THE SENSEI SHOULD LEAVE AS WELL.

THEY'RE DEAD. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN FINDING DEAD PEOPLE.

WHAT ABOUT THE MISSING PEOPLE? YOU'RE JUST GOING TO ABANDON THEM!?

NO, WAIT...

PEOPLE OF FLESH AND BLOOD CAN'T PASS THROUGH WALLS, AND I DON'T THINK HE COULD SIMPLY DISTORT SPACE.

I DON'T SEE HOW URADO COULD HAVE CARRIED HIS VICTIMS THROUGH THE WALLS.

THE REALITY IS, I DON'T TH NK THE MISSING PEOPLE COULD HAVE BEEN SEALED OFF IN THAT ROOM.

WE SEARCHED INSIDE THE HOUSE.

HE ONLY WANTS TO SURVIVE.
THERE WOULD BE NO MORE REASON TO HARBOR REGRET AND SORROW IN THIS WORLD.
I DON'T WANT TO DIE.
THAT'S THE REASON HE HUNTS HIS VICTIMS.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT KIND OF POWER IS NEEDED TO DO THAT?
THEY'RE NOW MONSTERS— "DEMONS," "DEVILS," "PHANTOMS," OR WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE TO CALL THEM.
THEY'RE NO LONGER JUST SPIRITS OF THE DEPARTED.
THEY HAVE NO REASON TO HAUNT THIS PLACE IF THEY RELEASE THEIR GRUDGE.

WE KNOW HOW TO HUNT GHOSTS, BUT WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO HUNT MONSTERS.
IS THERE ANYONE AMONG US WHO KNOWS HOW TO HUNT THEM?
AN EXORCISM WOULD BE INEFFECTIVE.

MY QUALIFICATIONS AREN'T GOOD ENOUGH EITHER.
I CAN'T MYSELF.
SAME HERE.
IF A CREATURE HAS THE POWER TO CARRY PEOPLE THROUGH WALLS, I COULDN'T HOLD IT DOWN.

"THE DEVIL'S CHILD," VLIAD-URADO.
HE REALLY IS LIKE A DEVIL...

NO WAY...
STILL...

I CAN'T STOP SOMEONE THAT DOESN'T FEAR THE GLORY OF GOD.

HE CAN'T LEAVE THIS HOUSE.

HE DOES HAVE...
...ONE WEAKNESS.
CREAAAK

AND SO...?
THAT'S RIGHT.

THE SURROUNDINGS OF THIS HOUSE ARE SAFE, AND MISS MADOKA MORI IS STILL THERE.
URADO SLAUGHTERED ONE VICTIM AFTER ANOTHER IN THIS HOUSE DURING HIS LIFETIME.
EVEN NOW, HIS DEEDS ARE CONFINED TO THIS HOUSE.
THEREFORE, HE CAN'T GO OUTSIDE THE HOUSE TO HUNT FOR HUMANS.
PERHAPS...
WELL, THEN...
THAT MEANS EVEN *MAI* COULD EXORCISE IT.
"EVEN" !?
IT'S EASY. YOU JUST HAVE TO TORCH THE HOUSE.
HE CAN'T ESCAPE THE HOUSE, SO HE HAS TO BURN WITH IT.
THERE'S NO WAY HE WOULDN'T BE CONSUMED BY THE INFERNO.
AFTER THE FIRE, WHAT DO YOU DO WITH WHAT'S LEFT!?
......!?
GRRRR
EVEN YOU COULD DO THAT.

THAT'S JUST LIKE NARU-CHAN...
HUH...
WHY ARE WE FLEEING?
THIS IS NOT FLEEING.

OUR JOB IS DONE.

BECAUSE HE WOULDN'T HAVE A PLACE TO HAUNT WITHOUT THE HOUSE.
NOTHING.
THAT'S NOT OUR JOB.
WE CALLED THE POLICE, WHO WILL DISMANTLE THE HOUSE AND DISCOVER THE MISSING PERSONS.

I DID THIS FOR MADOKA.
I DON'T THINK I WOULD HAVE TAKEN THIS CASE FOR HIM ALONE—EVEN NOW, IT DOESN'T HOLD MY INTEREST.
I DIDN'T COME HERE TO HONOR OHASHI-SAN'S REQUEST.

I'D LIKE YOU TO DO A LITTLE INVESTIGATION, BUT...

PRETTY PLEASE

I THINK THE MINAMI PSYCHIC RESEARCH CENTER HAS AN IMPOSTER POSING AS DR. OLIVER DAVIS.

...M-

MORI-SAN...?

RIGHT.

THERE'S NO REASON TO REMAIN HERE AND RISK OUR SAFETY.

OUR JOB IS OVER NOW.

POKKAAAAAN

THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO CAN'T KEEP QUIET.

I JUST MAINTAINED STRATEGIC SECRECY.

MERRING ME?

!

YOU DECEITFUL JERK...!

...Y-

CLATTER

LET'S LEAVE.

WHY DID YOU...

SPIN

I HATE THAT YOU DECEIVE PEOPLE WHO DISAGREE WITH YOU, NARU!

YEAH! THAT'S RIGHT!

UH, THAT'S HARSH.

YEAH

BOW!

I'M SO SORRY.

I'VE BEEN LYING TO YOU!

RIGHT?

THAT'S KAZUYA SHIBUYA.

ACTUALLY...

MAI!

OUR PRESIDENT IS AN IMPOSTER.

GRIN
SERVES YOU RIGHT!
YES, MR. PRESIDENT!

GATHER YOUR THINGS.
LET'S PREPARE TO LEAVE.

WHAT NARU SAID IS TRUE, RIGHT?
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
WE CAN LEAVE THE REST TO THE POLICE.
IT'S OKAY, RIGHT? IT'S OKAY THAT WE'RE ACTUALLY LEAVING.
ZIPPPP

SLAM

MAN!

HURRY UP!

PLEASE JUST WAIT ♡

IT'S NOT GOOD TO BE SO FULL OF PRIDE.

WHAT!?

DON'T! I'M STILL ANGRY AT NARU!

SIGH

I'M GOING TO TAKE A SHOWER, SO YOU CAN TAKE YOUR TIME.

THAT'S RIGHT...

FUI

WHAT'S DONE IS DONE.

OH, AYAKO, YOU'RE DONE PACKING?

CLICK

...DO NOT WISH TO SPEAK WITH YOU.

I...

MASAKO?

HMPH.
CLICK
WELL EXCUSE ME
WHY HAVE YOU BEEN SO MEAN TO ME SINCE WE GOT HERE? TELL ME WHY. JUST GIVE ME THE REASON.
HANG ON...
...ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE NARU ADDRESSES WITHOUT "-SAN"!?
DID YOU-
...WHY...
...HUH??

YOU'RE NOT JUST AN EMPLOYEE, ARE YOU?

WOULD YOU RATHER HE ADDRESSED ME BY MY FAMILY NAME?

WHY...

WHY DO YOU DESERVE SPECIAL TREATMENT?

HE CALLS MATSUZAKI-SAN AND ME BY OUR FAMILY NAMES...

HUH!?

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT IDEA?

YOU TWO BICKER LIKE YOU WERE VERY INTIMATE BEFORE.

OKAY, I'LL TELL NARU THAT.

YES, I WOULD, BUT...

BLUSH

AHH...

BY ANY CHANCE, MASAKO...

ARE YOU JEALOUS?

PHEW

SO YOU'RE JEALOUS?

DON'T BE SO RUDE.

YOU...

EHEE HEE HEE

MASAKO... YOU'RE SO CUTE!

W-WHAT IS IT NOW?

I...I'M SORRY.

SMIRK

WHAT ELSE ARE YOU JEALOUS OF?

THE ONLY SPECIAL TREATMENT I GET IS THE BAD KIND.

THERE'S NO REASON TO BE JEALOUS OF ME

WELL—

FWIP

YIKES

WHAT IS HIS WEAKNESS?

WHAT IS IT?

WHY WON'T YOU TELL ME?

IT'S NOTHING UNUSUAL.

IF I TOLD YOU...

HE WOULD HATE ME EVEN MORE...

WOW, DID I REALLY JUST SAY THAT.

NARU THINKS I'M HIS PERSONAL FLUNKY.

CLENCH

...DON'T YOU ALSO GET SPECIAL TREATMENT?

IN GENERAL, THOUGH...

HUH?

IT'S BECAUSE I KNOW NARU'S WEAKNESS...

THAT NARU HATES ME

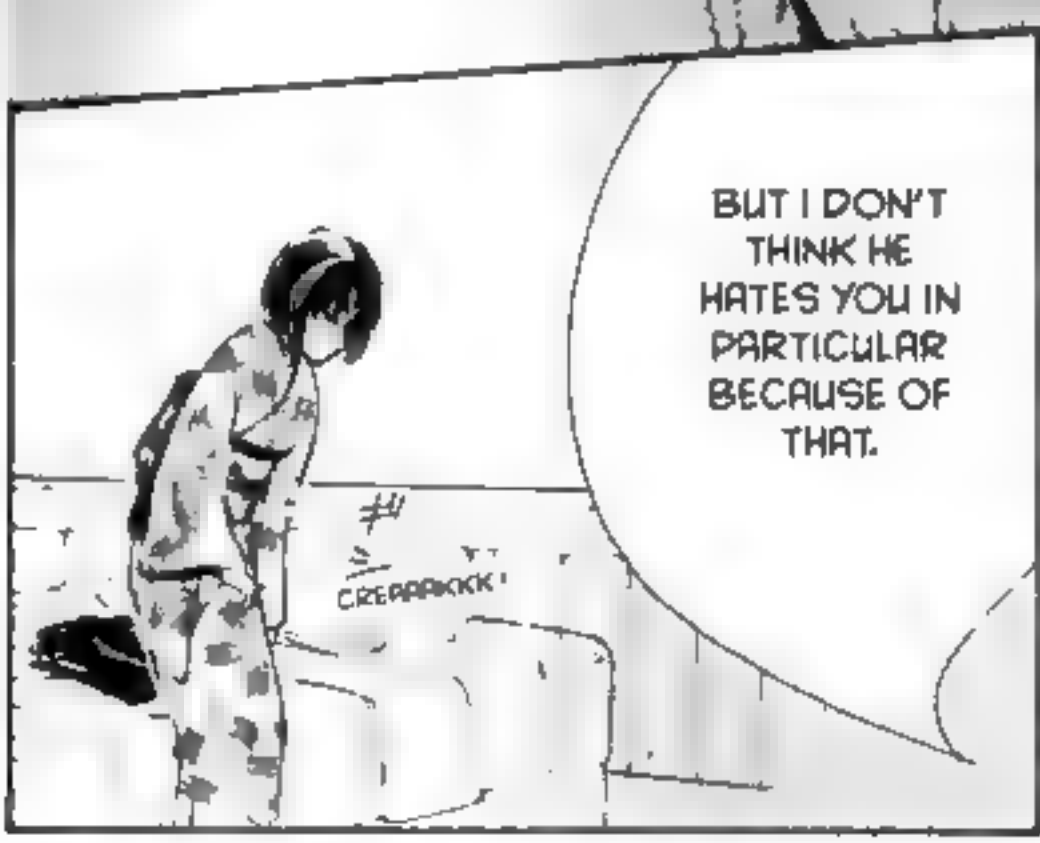
WHO, ME?

YEP

BECAUSE YOU KNOW HIS WEAKNESS.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

SO HE HATES ME.
HE CAN'T TOLERATE THE THOUGHT OF SOMEONE KNOWING HIS WEAKNESS.
NARU HAS MUCH PRIDE.


BUT I DON'T THINK HE HATES YOU IN PARTICULAR BECAUSE OF THAT.
CREEEEKKK!

IF I TELL PEOPLE, HE WILL HATE ME EVEN MORE.
GOT IT

STAY HERE.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING? NO WAY YOU'RE GOING OUT ALONE. I'M COMING TOO...
MASAKO?
BUT...
I'LL JUST BE IN THE CORRIDOR, SO DON'T COME.
I WANT TO STEP OUT FOR SOME FRESH AIR.
SLAM
MAI...
BECAUSE I HATE YOU.

SPECIAL TREATMENT, HUH?

I WON'T BE DREAMING ABOUT NARU THIS TIME.

IF THAT'S TRUE...

THAT MUST BE IT.

ROLL

PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO BE HATED BY THE PERSON THEY LIKE.

YOU CAN HAVE OUR BICKERING

THAT'S KIND OF LONELY...

HEY, WHERE'S MASAKO?

HMM?

IN THE CORRIDOR—

RUSTLE

AHHH! ALL FRESH AND CLEAN!

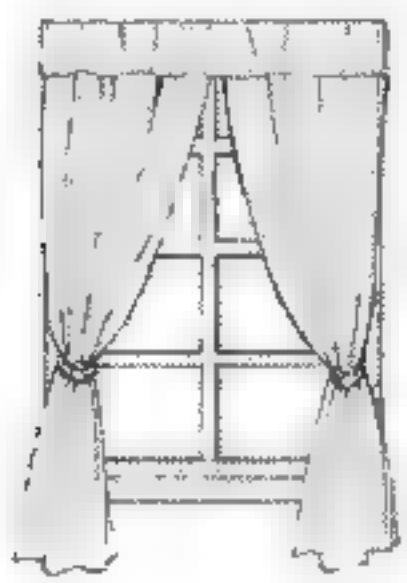
SORRY FOR THE WAIT.

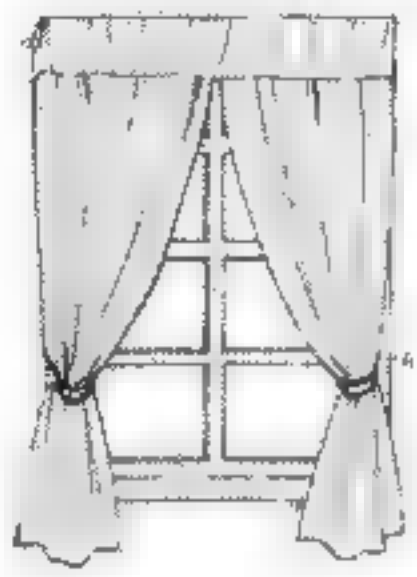
STOMP

MASAKO!

MAI?

STOMP





WHAT'S THE MATTER?

MASAKOOOO!!
WHERE ARE YOU?
...MASAKO...
MASAKO, ANSWER ME!

GHOST HUNT

— THE BLOODSTAINED LABYRINTH —

FILE 9

...I'M SORRY.

WHY DID YOU LET HER GO ALONE?

HEY.

WHAM

...I THINK...

SHE MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN THE EMPTY SPACE BELOW US.

NOPE. HOW 'BOUT YOU?

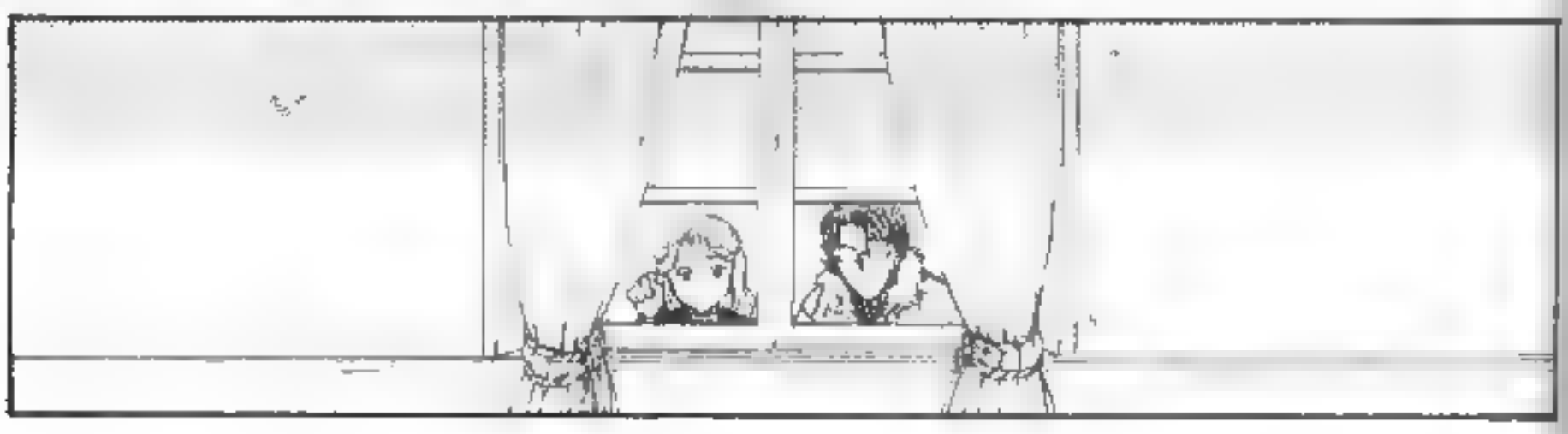
ANY LUCK?

WE COULDN'T FIND HER EITHER.

TAPPP TAPPP TAPPP!
THAT'S ALL WE...
WHAT NOW? DO WE TEAR A WALL DOWN AGAIN?

WHAT DO WE DO? WHAT'S HAPPENING TO MASAKO...

SHOULD HAVE DONE MORE TO HOLD HER BACK.
I...



WE GOT THE MESSAGE AT THE HOTEL ABOUT US LEAVING SO WE THOUGHT WE'D COME AND HELP...
BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS HAS HAPPENED...

WE'RE BACK FROM DOING THE LEGWORK.

WHEN IT SHUT DOWN, THEY WERE WORKING AS ASSISTANTS.

WE... FOUND PEOPLE WHO WORKED AT AN AFFILIATED CHARITY HOSPITAL.

WHAT DID YOU DISCOVER?

AND SO?

UH...

RIGHT.

MOST OF THEM WERE AROUND TEN YEARS OLD AT THE TIME, BUT...

YEAH, SO THEY WERE PRETTY OLD. BUT THEY REMEMBERED THE PAST VERY WELL.

MAN... WASN'T THAT DURING THE MEIJI ERA?

"THOSE WHO CAME BACK FROM THERE...

"...WERE ALL SCARED OF THE PLACE."

"WHEN YOU LEFT THE HOSPITAL, THEY WOULD ASK YOU FOR MONEY.

"WHEN THEY WERE CAPTURED, THEY WERE TAKEN TO THE MOUNTAIN VILLA."

"SO THERE WERE MANY WHO WOULD SNEAK OUT AT NIGHT TO AVOID THAT.

SACRIFICIAL VICTIMS WERE SELECTED FROM AMONG THE PEOPLE FROM THE HOSPITAL.

NO...

THIS IS JUST MY GUESS, BUT I DON'T THINK THEY NECESSARILY NEEDED TO BE BROUGHT HERE.

I GET IT...

URK

OKAY?

THAT'S RIGHT. EVERYONE'S GOT TO KEEP IT TOGETHER.

ANSWER ME!

...OK

HMM. SOMETHING'S WRONG!

STAY CALM! FORGET IT. LET'S JUST FIND HER!

NO... WHAT DO I DO?

NOT MASAKO, TOO.

FIND HARA-SAN'S LUGGAGE AND BRING IT WITH YOU.

NARU-CHAN?

LIN, COME WITH ME

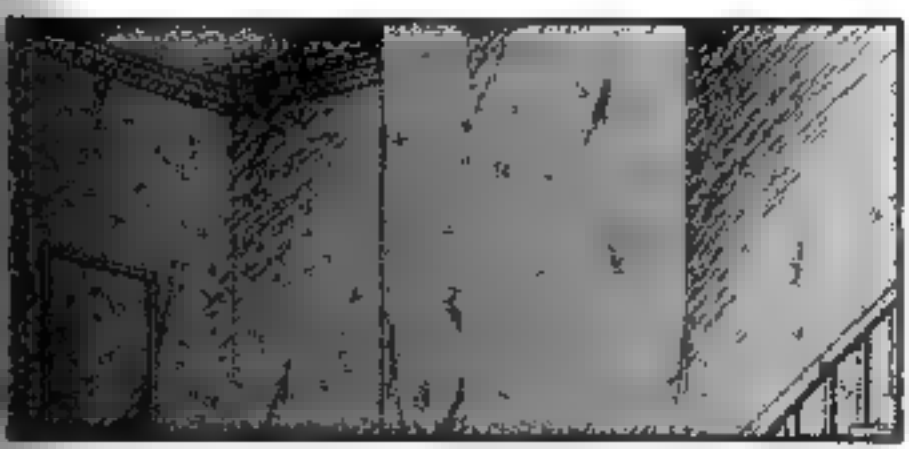
OKAY

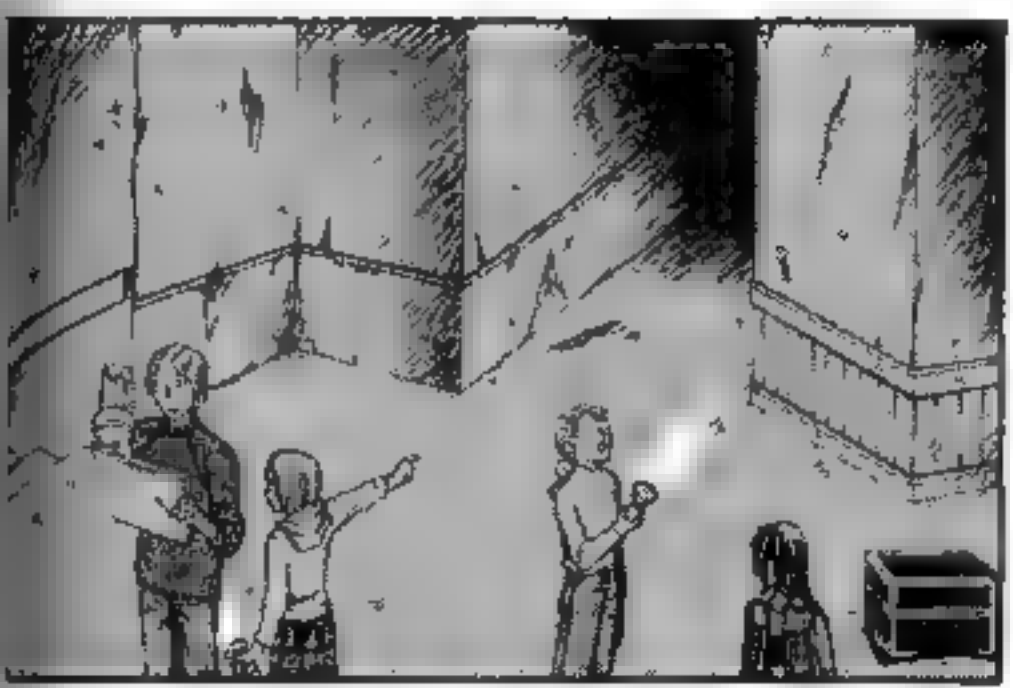
OH?

YASUHARA-SAN, MADOKA, PLEASE HELP US.

ANYWHERE NEAR THE EMPTY SPACE.

SO WHERE DO WE START TEARING DOWN?





LET MASAKO BE UNHARMED...

PLEASE, GOD, OR ANYONE ELSE OUT THERE...

SOME-BODY PLEASE SAVE MASAKO...!

HAVE YOU GOT ANYTHING YET?

I'M FINDING OUT NOW.

IT'S BEEN OVER HALF A DAY.

THIS IS BAD...

HEY, WHAT NEXT?

AN "X" FLOOR...

IT MUST BE ANOTHER FLOOR BELOW THE FIRST FLOOR.

THE WALLS HAVEN'T DETERIORATED, SO I'M STILL SEARCHING.

IF THE MEASUREMENTS ARE CORRECT, THE SURROUNDING ROOMS ARE CONCEALING A SEPARATE "X" FLOOR.

MAN...

WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME AND LEAVE THIS TO THE PROS?

HEY!

IN THE END, THAT'LL BE FASTER.

HEY

WHY DON'T WE START TEARING DOWN WALLS, INSTEAD OF WAITING AROUND TO PINPOINT THE RIGHT ONE?

I...I'M SORRY, TOO.

...INDEED.

IT'S NOT GOOD TO GET IRRITATED

MONK-SAN AND THE REST HAVE BEEN WORKING ALL NIGHT.

NATURALLY, THEY'RE GOING TO GET IRRITABLE AS THEY GET MORE TIRED.

IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME.

THE ANXIETY LEVELS ARE RISING.

...YOU'RE TIRED?

STOP MAKING US MORE TENSE!

YOU.

I'M NOT APOLOGIZING FOR THAT!

...NOW, NOW, NOW.

I KNOW YOU'RE ANXIOUS, BUT ARGUING WON'T HELP.

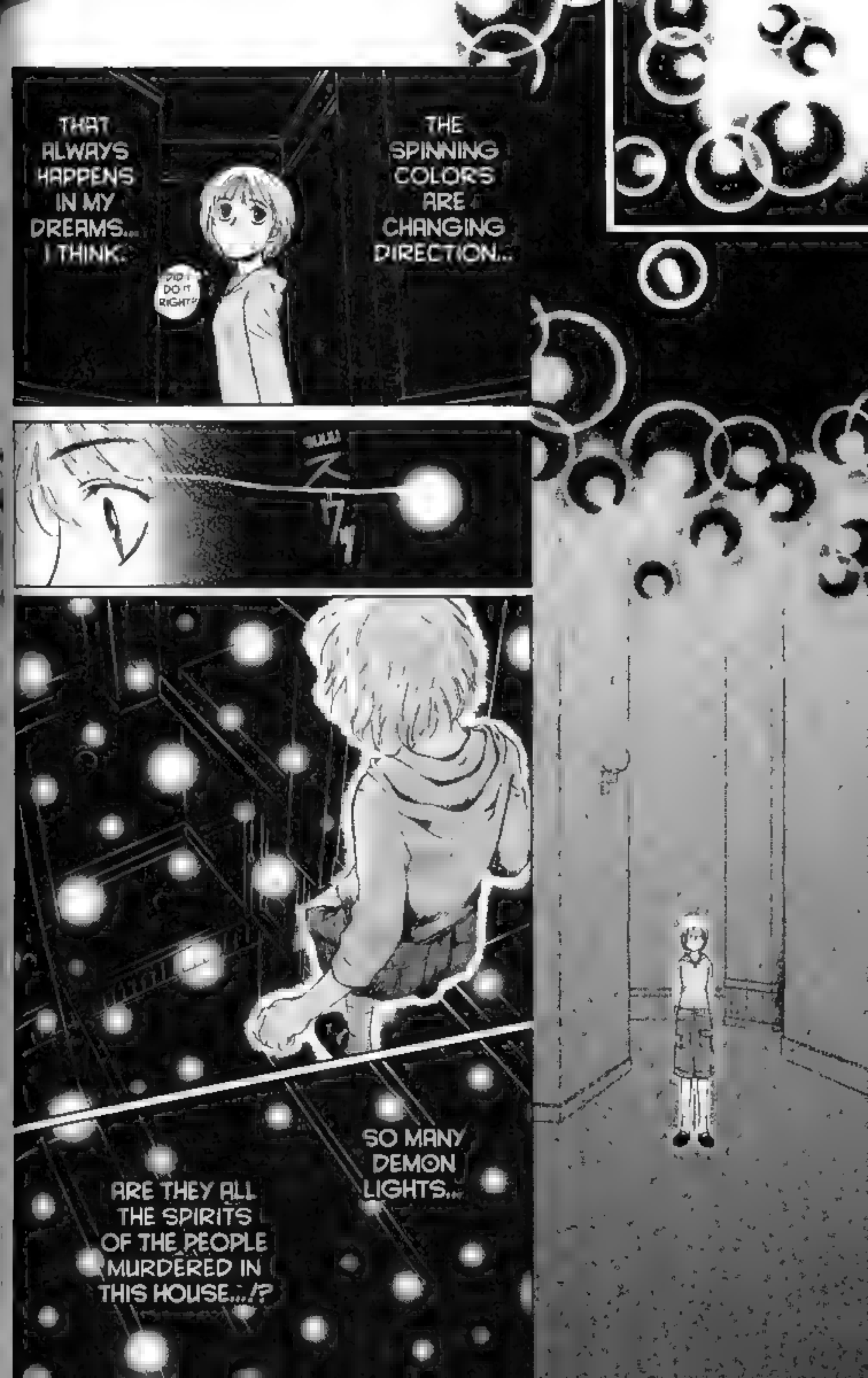
CALM DOWN, YOU TWO.

LET'S ALL TAKE A MOMENT AND THINK OF HOW WE CAN FIND HARA-SAN FASTER.

OKAY?

THERE'S A HALO.

WHY DON'T YOU SLEEP, SO YOU CAN LEARN MORE?
ISN'T THAT ONE WAY OF GATHERING INFORMATION?
BUT...
OH, NO, NO.
I'M SORRY FOR CAUSING TROUBLE.
SO YOU CAN CONFIRM MASAKO'S SAFETY?
I'M BEGGING YOU!
I-I'LL DO MY BEST!
IT'S GOOD TO USE MY POWER WHEN WE NEED IT, BUT...
SO I DID.

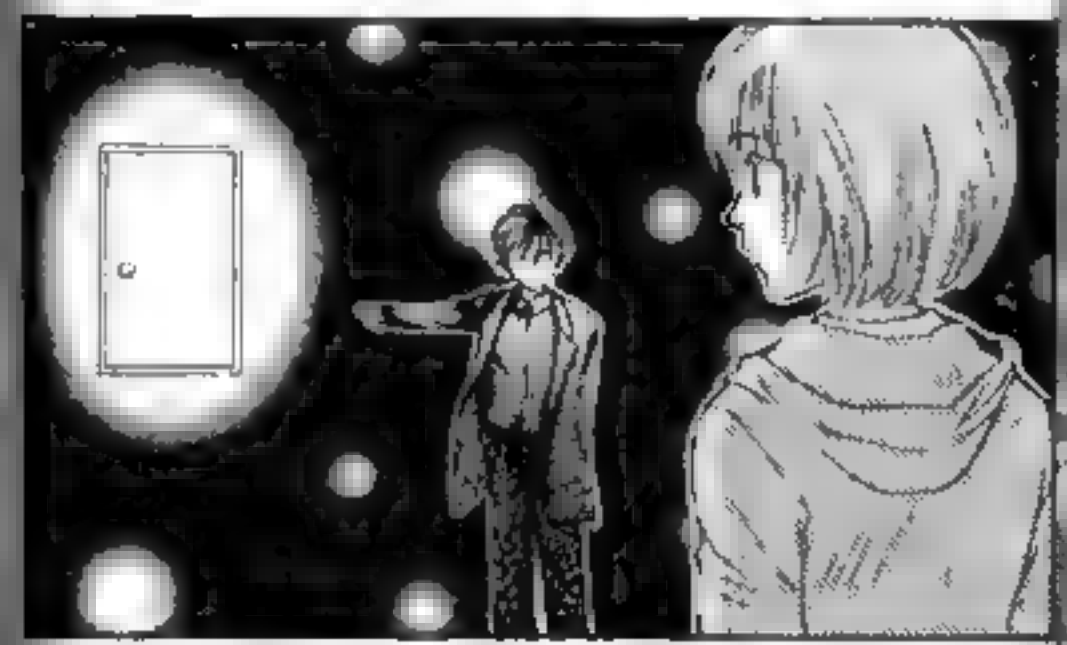

THAT ALWAYS HAPPENS IN MY DREAMS... I THINK.
DID I DO IT RIGHT?
THE SPINNING COLORS ARE CHANGING DIRECTION...
SO MANY DEMON LIGHTS...
ARE THEY ALL THE SPIRITS OF THE PEOPLE MURDERED IN THIS HOUSE...!?

...NA...

I CAN NEVER MEET HIM LIKE THIS.
...UM.

BUT NO MATTER HOW CHEERFUL HE SEEMS HERE...

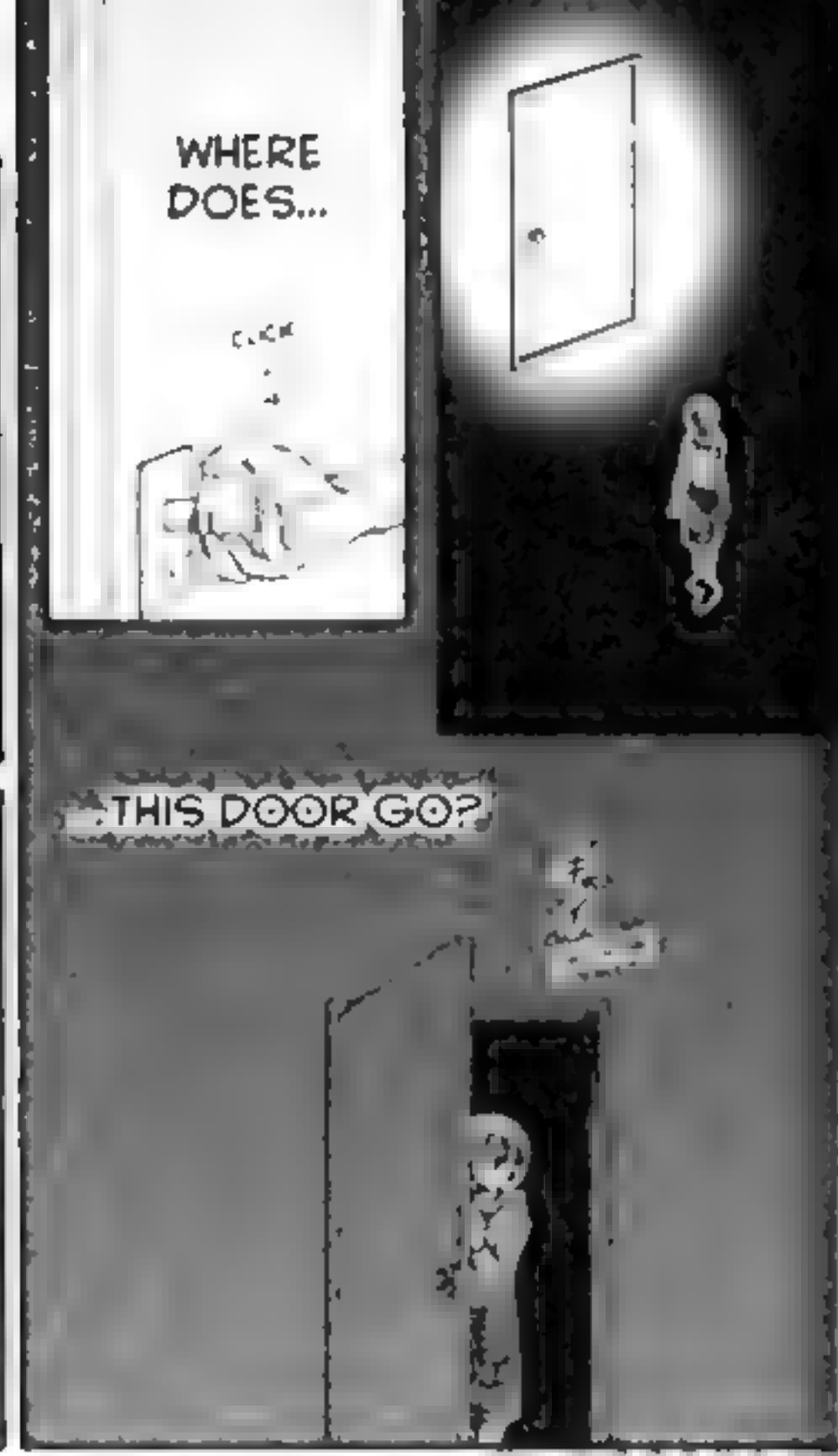
WOW
WHAT A DELIGHTFUL PLACE!

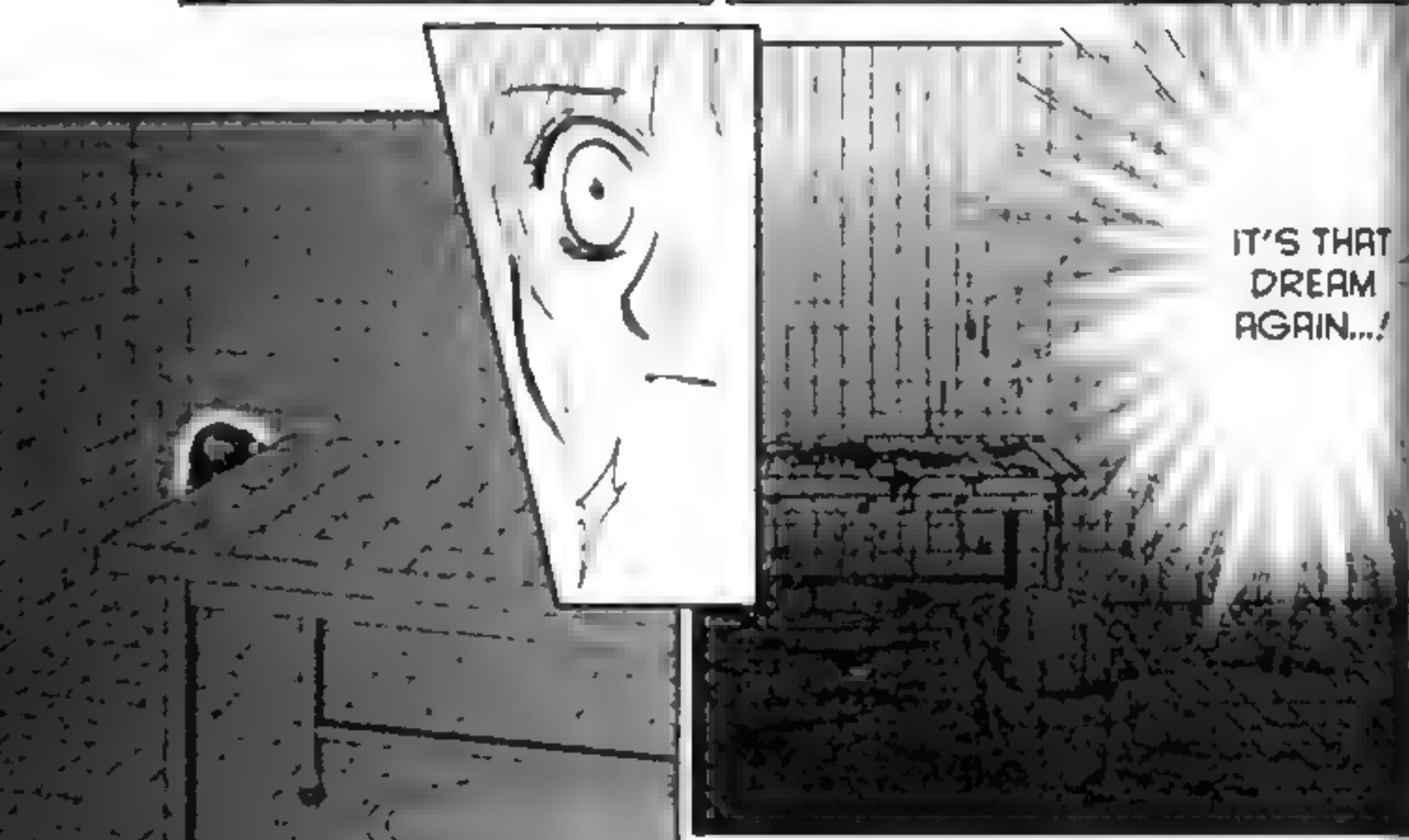


UH...
DO YOU KNOW MASAKO?

—IS SHE...
...ALL RIGHT?

スウ
AH!


WHERE DOES...
CLICK
THIS DOOR GO?


IT'S THAT DREAM AGAIN...!

MASAKO!?
MASA-
MASAKO...?
SIGH
...MAI...?

...I'M VERY T.RED.
SO MANY SCARY EMOTIONS LINGER...
YES... BUT...
I'M GLAD YOU'RE OKAY...
ANY INJURIES? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
...BEFORE YOU CAME...
WE'RE COMING TO SAVE YOU!
JUST A LITTLE LONGER... JUST HOLD ON A LITTLE BIT LONGER.

YOU'LL BE FINE.

HE LIFTED MY SPIRITS HERE.

NARU.

HE WAS HERE...

YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

HE SMILED SO BEAUTIFULLY.

THAT WAS GOOD OF HIM.

...PROTECTED ME HERE...

ISN'T IT STRANGE?

NARU...

THIS IS THE HOUSE, RIGHT?

I JUST DON'T KNOW IT MYSELF.

I...MIGHT HAVE DIED ALREADY.

MASAKO.

SOMEHOW I'VE GOTTA RAISE HER SPIRITS...

!

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

...DON'T SAY STUFF LIKE THAT!

...A CHARM?

THIS... ...IS A CHARM!

...MAI?

RUSTLE

IT'S MY CHARM.
IT'S THE KEY TO THE HOUSE WHERE I LIVED LONG AGO.
DO YOU BELIEVE IN YOURSELF?
WE BELIEVED IN OURSELVES NO MATTER WHAT
I HAVEN'T ENVISIONED YOUR DEATH, MASAKO.
WHEN MY FATHER DIED, MY MOTHER HELD ON TO THIS CHARM.
IT WAS THE HOUSE I WAS BORN IN.
MY MOTHER AND FATHER LIVED THERE.
DO YOU FEEL THE KEY IN YOUR HANDS?
GRIP
HANG ON AND BELIEVE ME...WE'LL DEFINITELY SAVE YOU.
EVERYONE IS SEARCHING AS HARD AS THEY CAN FOR AN ENTRANCE, SO WE'LL FIND IT SOON.
AND THEN, SHE LEFT IT TO ME—

URADO?
YES.
...THAT MAN...
HE CAME.
YES. POSITIVE.
ARE YOU POSITIVE THEY'RE COMING?
SO MANY PEOPLE WERE MURDERED...
IT WAS SO SCARY...
AND THEN, I HAD A VISION...
RIGHT BEFORE I WAS TO DIE, I PRAYED, "DON'T LET THEM DO IT."
THEN, TWO OTHER MALE SPIRITS CAME TO KILL ME.
DON'T GIVE UP!
MASAKO!
NO! WAKE UP!
ぼう
SLUMP

YOU WOKE UP? EVERYONE'S MOVED TO THE NEXT ROOM.

OH

BLINK

YES?

...MASAKO...

...IS STILL ALIVE...

...REALLY?

I MADE HER A PROMISE.

UH-HUH.

I SAID, "WE'LL DEFINITELY SAVE YOU."

HELP ME

SHE'S SCARED... VERY SCARED, BUT SHE'S UNHURT.

SHE'S IN THAT ROOM THAT'S COVERED IN TILES.

SHE'S UNHARMED.

THERE'S A THIN SPOT IN THE WALL.
WE'LL SAVE YOU...!
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
KEEP GOING, BOY!
YEAH.
OKAY

LET THIS BE THE RIGHT PLACE—!

PLEASE

...WHA-

-WHAT THE HELL IS THIS!?

IT LOOKS LIKE AN ENTRANCE...

DOES IT GO TO A HOUSE WITHIN THE HOUSE?

LET'S GO.

WATCH OUT!
WOW
IT NEEDS A KEY. SHALL WE BREAK IT?
WHAT KIND OF HOUSE...
CREEEAAAK
BAM!

THIS IS THE MAIN WING WHERE KANEYUKI LIVED?

PERHAPS...

WELL, LET'S LOOK FOR A ROOM WITH A FIREPLACE.

IT MUST BE.

THIS CEILING IN HERE MUST BE THE BOTTOM OF THE FIRST FLOOR.

IS THIS THE PLACE YOU DREAMT ABOUT?

NUH-UH.

THIS ISN'T IT.

THERE WAS A FIREPLACE, AND A CLOSET TO THE RIGHT...

THIS IS IT!

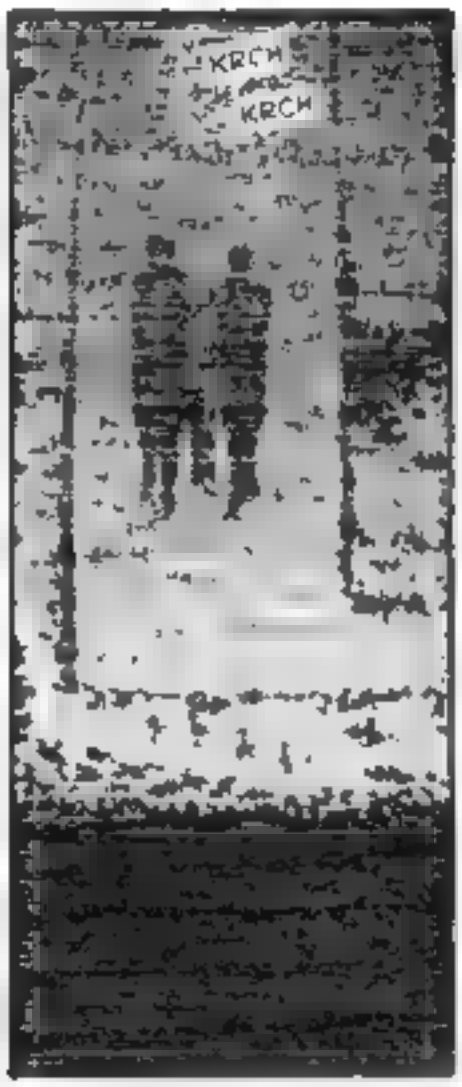
HERE?
RIGHT!
IT'S HERE! NO MISTAKING IT.
INSIDE THAT CLOSET IS A PASSAGE-WAY!

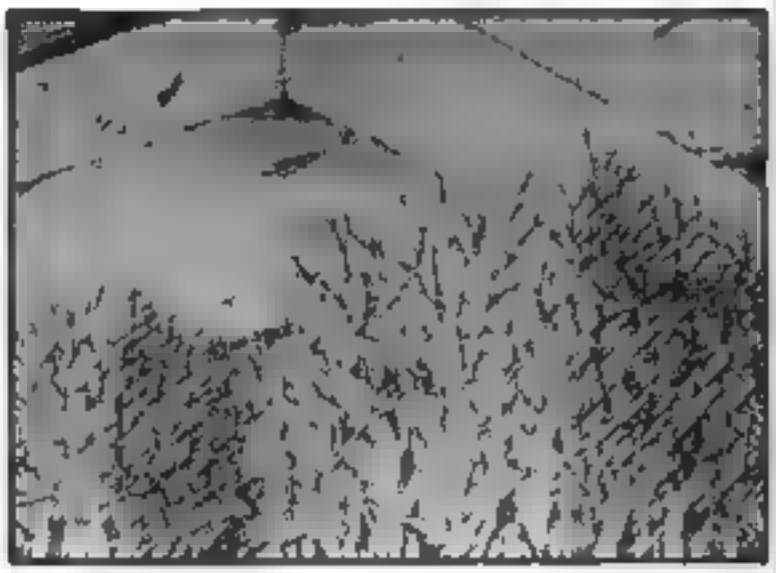
WHOA
...THIS IS IT!
GOOD JOB, MAI!
...IF THIS IS LIKE MY DREAM...
...THERE SHOULD BE A GRAVEL PATH AHEAD.
CREEPPARK

WHAT IS THIS!?

KRCH

OF COURSE IT'S THE SAME PLACE
...THIS IS IT
HEY!


KRCH
KRCH



ISN'T THE FLOOR ABOVE US UNNATURALLY HIGH TO CONCEAL THIS PLACE?

THIS IS THE BIGGEST CLEARING SO FAR.

...AS I SUSPECTED.

THERE'S A DOOR AHEAD.

STOMP

MAI!

IT'S HERE—!

CREEAAK

MASAKO!

MASA-

.....

MAI...?

WHERE ARE YOU!?

IT'S ME! MAI!

ANSWER ME, MASAKO!

MASAKO.

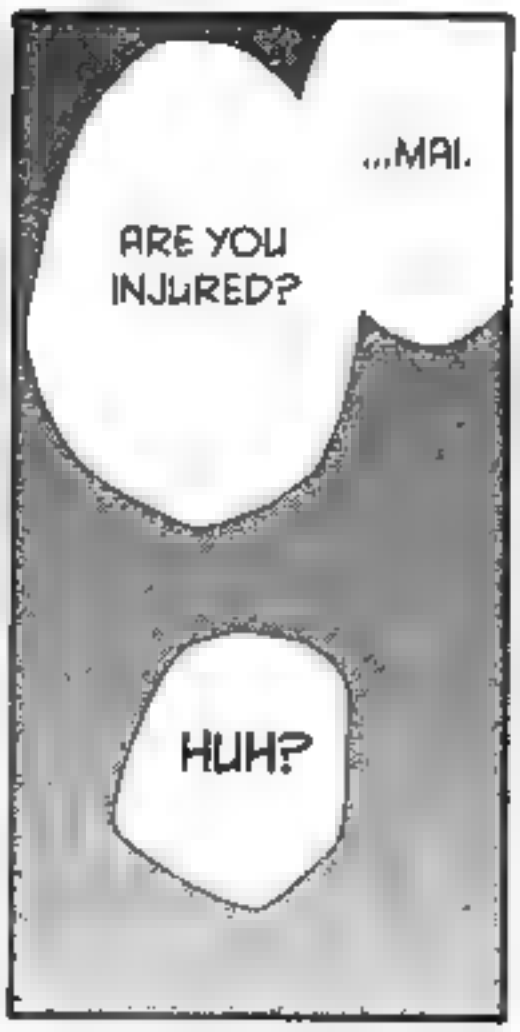
...YES.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
THANK GOODNESS...

MASAKO !?

YOU REALLY CAME.

—WHEN I SLIPPED...

THERE'S BLOOD...


...MAI.
ARE YOU INJURED?
HUH?

KYAAA!

I PUT MY HAND ON THE TABLE—

BAM

BLP

NO WAY...

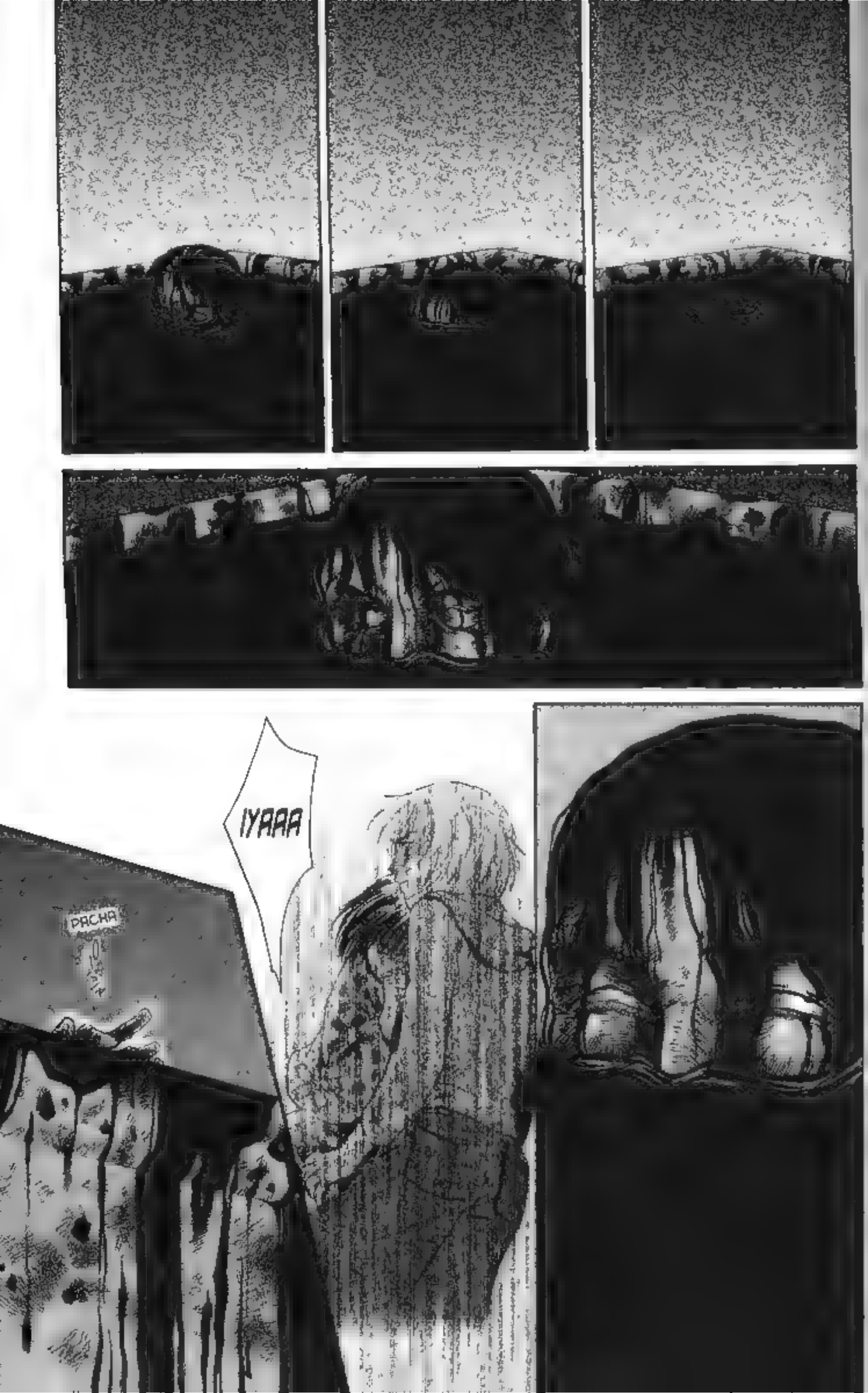
ALL...

...OF THIS IS BLOOD ...?

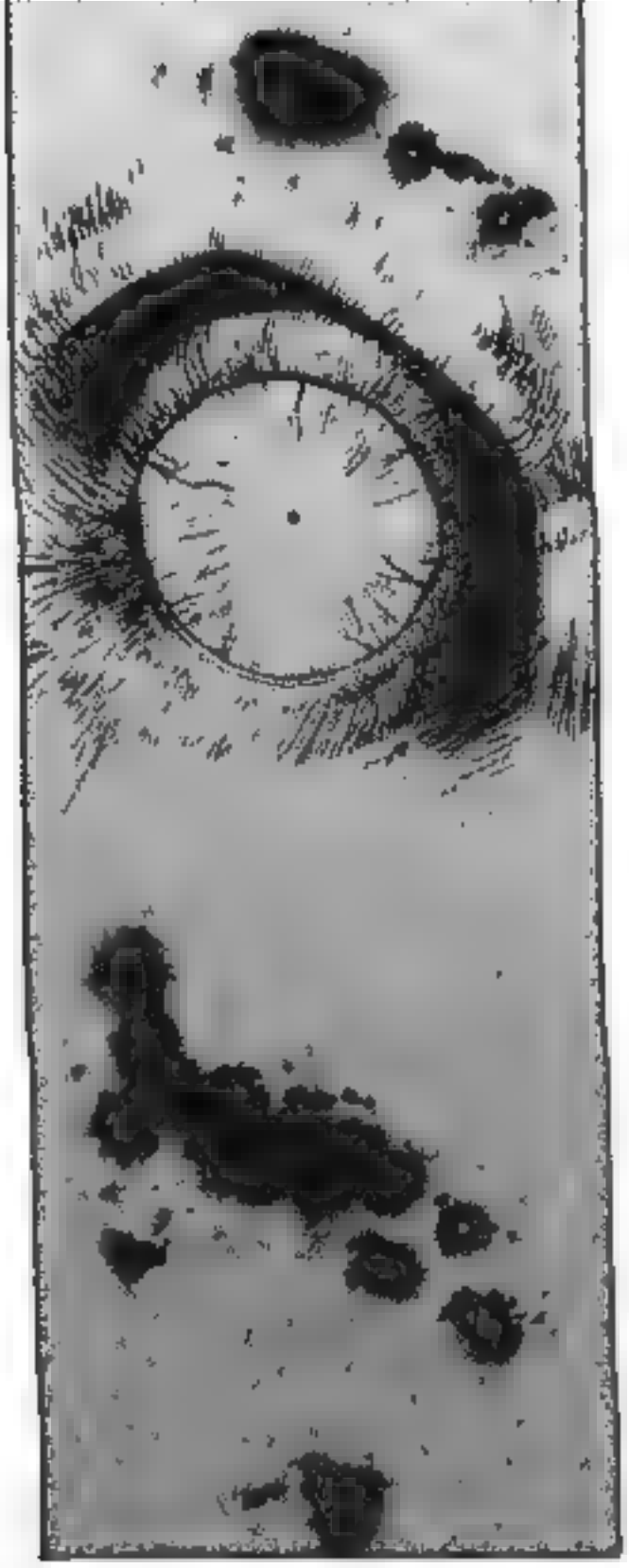
DRIDDD

!
BLP

BLINK


IYAAA
PACHA

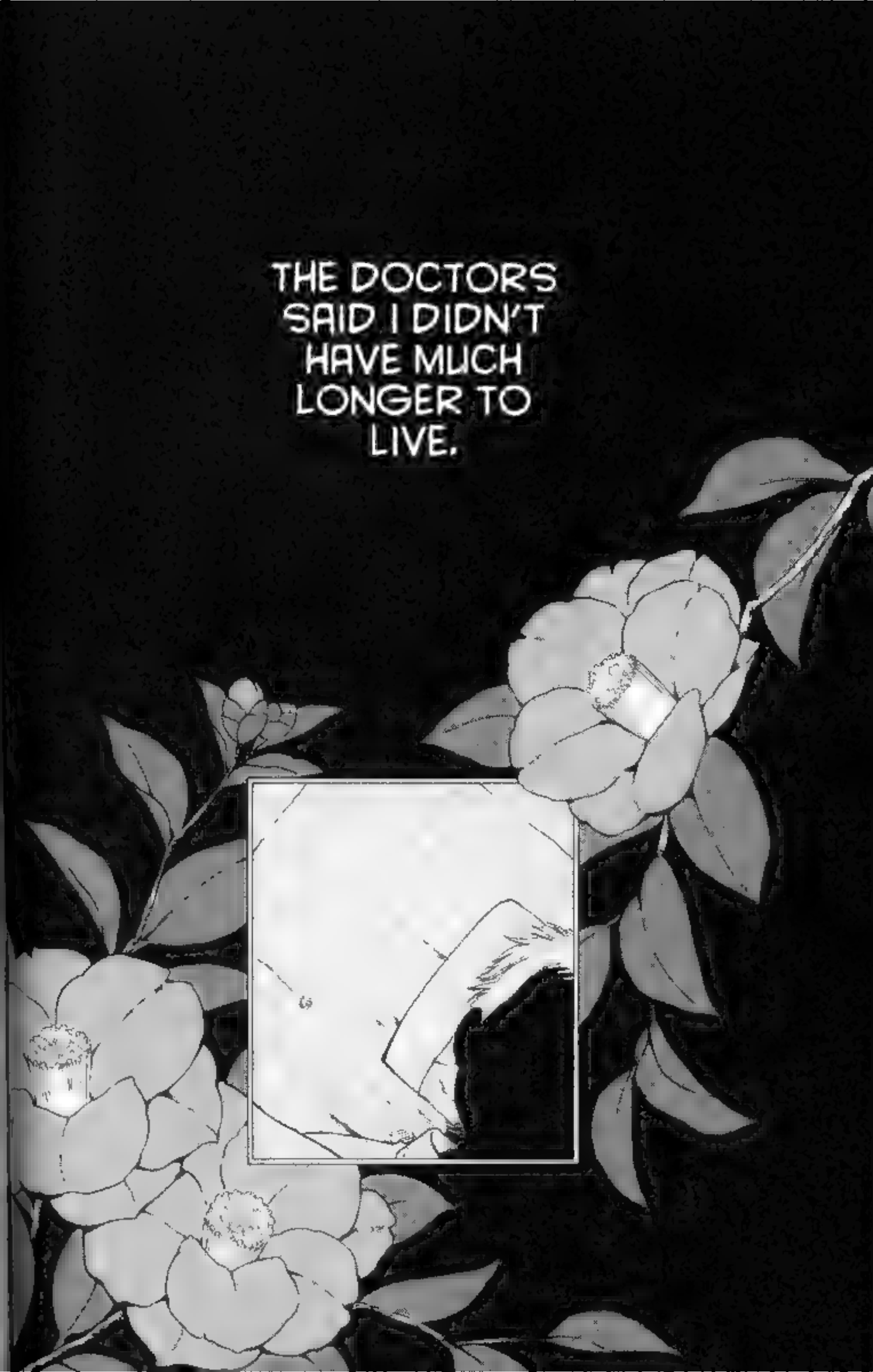
URADO...!
—U...



GHOST HUNT

— THE BLOODSTAINED LABYRINTH —

FILE 10


THE DOCTORS SAID I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH LONGER TO LIVE.

I WOULD FEAR THE COMING OF DEATH...

UNTIL I DID DIE.

I DON'T WANT TO DIE.

THERE WAS NO REASON TO CONSTANTLY FEAR DEATH'S SHADOW.

I READ A BOOK DEEP WITH MEANING.

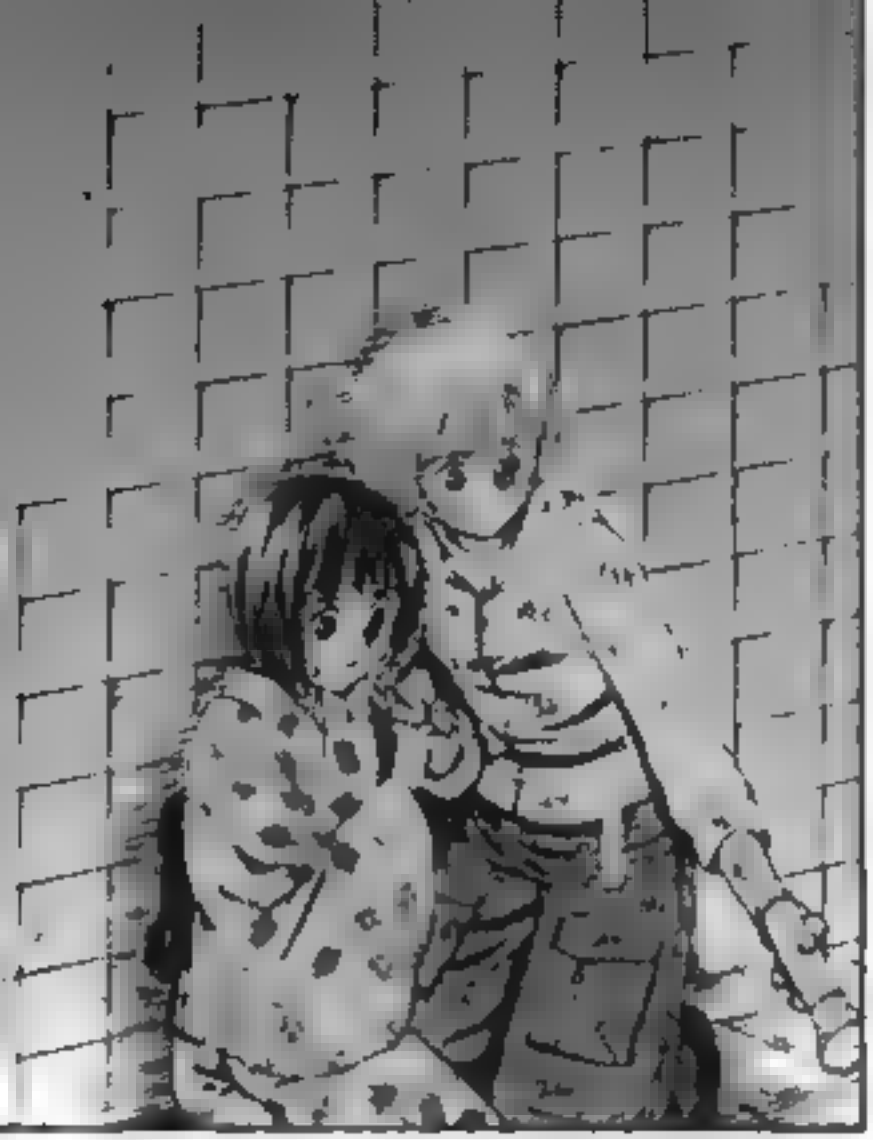
BLOOD...

LOTS OF BLOOD...

MORE...

COULD I EXTEND MY LIFE WITH THE BLOOD OF THE YOUNG, JUST LIKE IN THE BOOK?

MORE—!
DRIPPP
...THIS CAN'T BE...



DID THAT BLOOD...
...COME FROM THE MISSING PEOPLE?

...WE CAN'T ESCAPE.
NAUMAKU SANMANDA BAZARADANKAN
...WE CAN'T ESCAPE!
—NAUMAKU
SANMANDA BAZARADANKAN

VROOOM

NAUMAKU SANMANDA BAZARADANKAN

RIN

PYOU TOU SHA KAI CHIN RETSU ZAI

ZEN!

CREEAAAAK

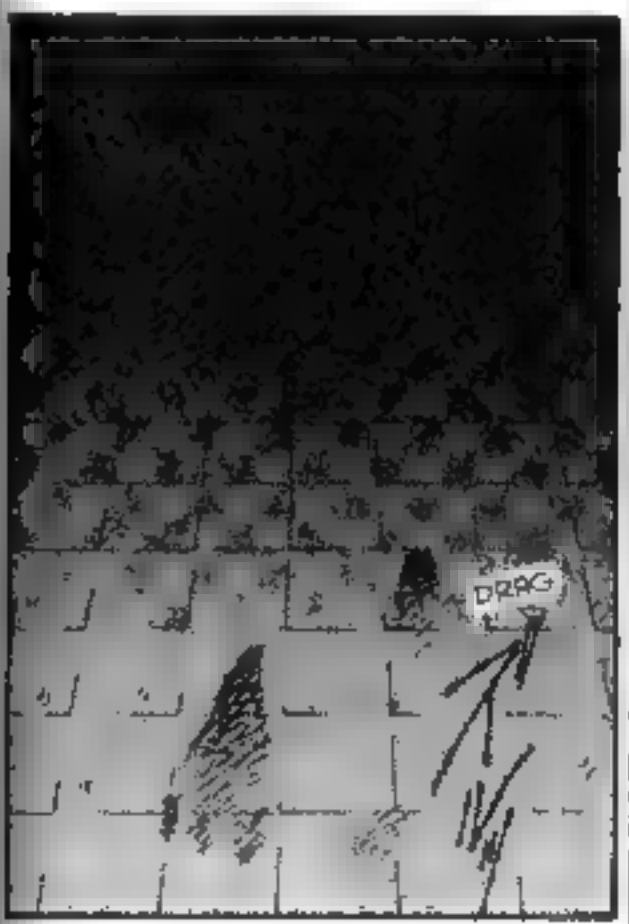
MASAKO!

NOW!

SPLISH!

BAM!

GRIPPP



THESE HANDS BELONG TO THOSE TWO MEN...!

THIS IS HOW EVERYONE WAS MURDERED.

THE VENGEANCE OF PEOPLE LONG DEAD—!

DRAG

DRIPPP

...IT'S HERE.

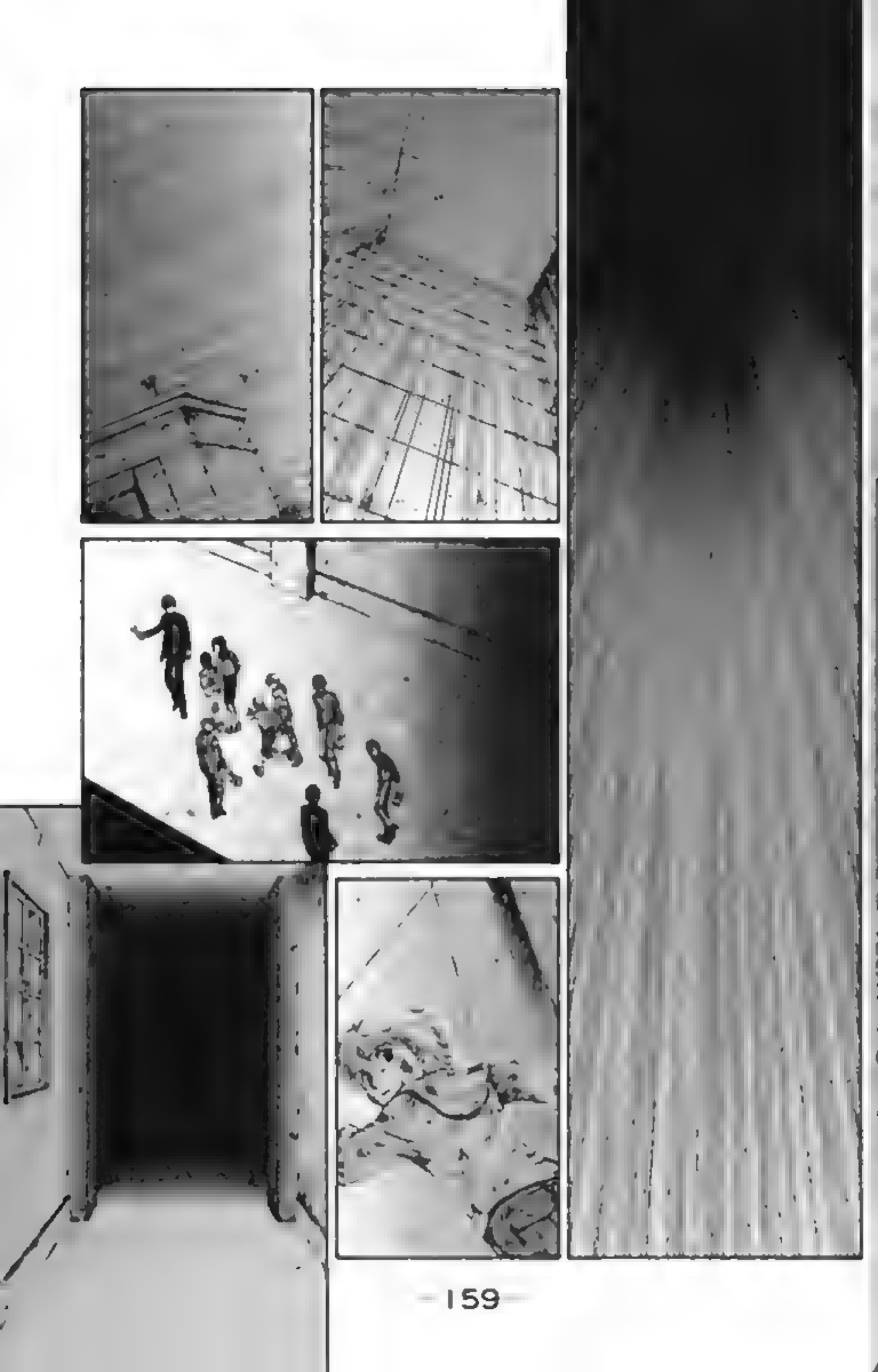
HUUUUUU

HUUUUUU

HUUUUU
-AAAA...

—MAI!?
KYAAAAA
COME HERE! IN HERE!
NOOOOO!
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
URADO...
!

SUUU
FU
WOBBLE
WHAM
MONK-SAN...
ARE YOU OKAY!?
I'M ONLY SOMEWHAT SURPRISED.
URADO HASN'T BEEN VANQUISHED YET.
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
YOU'RE SURE YOU'RE



GET OUT OF HERE ANY WAY YOU CAN!
GO OUT THROUGH THE WINDOW OVER THERE!

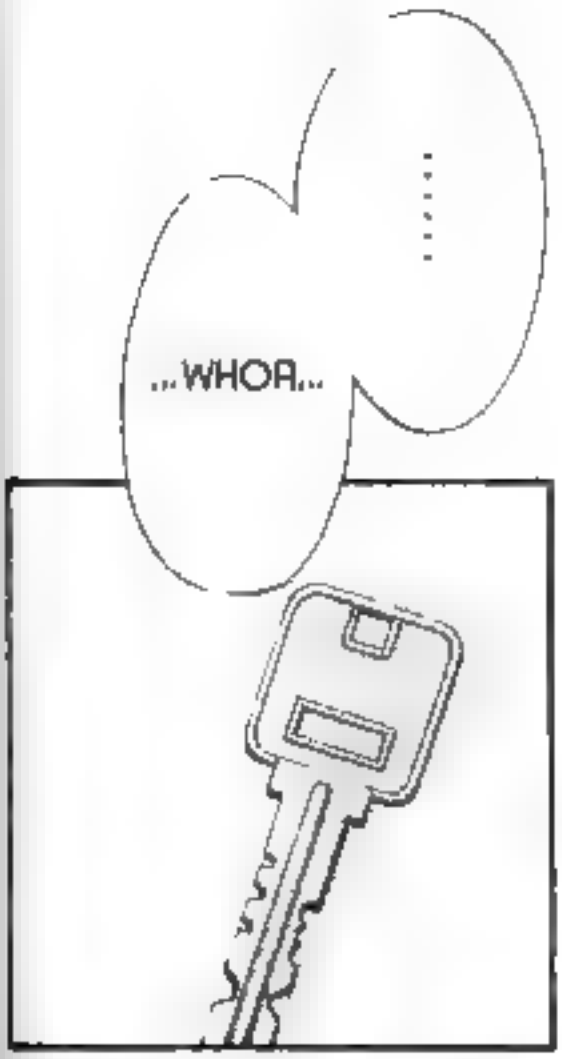
GASP
...MAN... WHY...
...DID YOU... CHARGE IN ALONE...?
GASP
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
GASP
BUT OUR MISSING COL-LEAGUES...
PHEW
WELL...
WE DID FIND HER THANKS TO YOU...
..YEAH..
SORRY...
THEY WERE HEAPED ON THE UPSTAIRS' ROOM FLOOR...
LIKE CARGO, OR THINGS...
THEIR NECKS WERE SLICED.

PERHAPS...
KIROYUKI-SHI CONCEALED TH S...

ON TOP OF THAT, THE ROOM BEFORE IT WAS STACKED WITH SO MANY BONES... PROBABLY FROM THE VICTIMS.
AFTER EXTRACTING THE BLOOD, HE MUST HAVE CREMATED THE REMAINS IN THE INCINERATOR...
...THEN NEATLY STACKED THEM.

BUT ONE PERSON COULDN'T HAVE DEALT WITH SO MANY BODIES.
A LOT OF PEOPLE DIED...
...HOW SAD...
ZA-

MASAKO...
—MAI.
TADDA
LAST NIGHT?
AND FOR LAST NIGHT...
THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME.
YOU CAME FOR ME, RIGHT?


.....
...WHOA...

WHAA-AAAA-AT!?
WHAT, WHAT IS IT!?

LOOK, I HAD IT RIGHT HERE...
BUT I REALLY GAVE YOU MY KEY!
I THOUGHT FOR SURE IT WAS A DREAM...

...OH
SPEAKING OF TALENTS...

YOUR TALENTS KEEP GROWING.
YOU'VE ALREADY PERFORMED OUT-OF-BODY EXPERIENCES FOR CLAIR-VOYANCE AND VISIONS OF THE PAST.
TALENTS...
OF COURSE.
IS THIS ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR TALENTS?

TECH-NIQUE?
YOU SAY?
THAT'S MY TECHNIQUE.
OH...
WHEN WE SAVED MAI AND MASAKO, HOW DID YOU WARD OFF THOSE CREATURES?
LIN-SAN, WHAT WAS THAT THING YOU DID THEN?
...THEN?
YOU'RE HEAVY.
...NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT.
YOU USED THAT JUST NOW?
CHINESE TAOISTS CAPTURED MONSTERS AND SPIRITS BY CONTROLLING THEM.
IT'S CALLED SPIRIT CONTROL.
IT'S A TECHNIQUE FOR ENSLAVING SPIRITS.
—IT'S GETTING LIGHT...
THAT'S AMAZING...
WOW.
WE CAN GO BACK IN AGAIN SOON.

NARU, YOU DROPPED SOME-THING.
OH
KRCH

YOU WANT TO GO BACK INSIDE?

OH?
GASP

A COMB...?

WHAAAT !?
I MUST HAVE LEFT IT IN THE ROOM...
THAT IS MINE.

OHASHI-SAN OPENED THE DOOR TO THE PASSAGE-WAY...

STOP IT...

BUT WE MUST ALLOW THIS PLACE TO ROT IN STRICT ACCORDANCE TO YOUR ANCESTOR'S SEALED WILL.

I WILL PRESENT A REPORT LATER...

HE WAS ALSO SURPRISED BY THE PRESENCE OF YASUHARA-SAN AND MORI-SAN.

HE WAS QUITE SURPRISED THAT WE WERE OUT-SIDE.

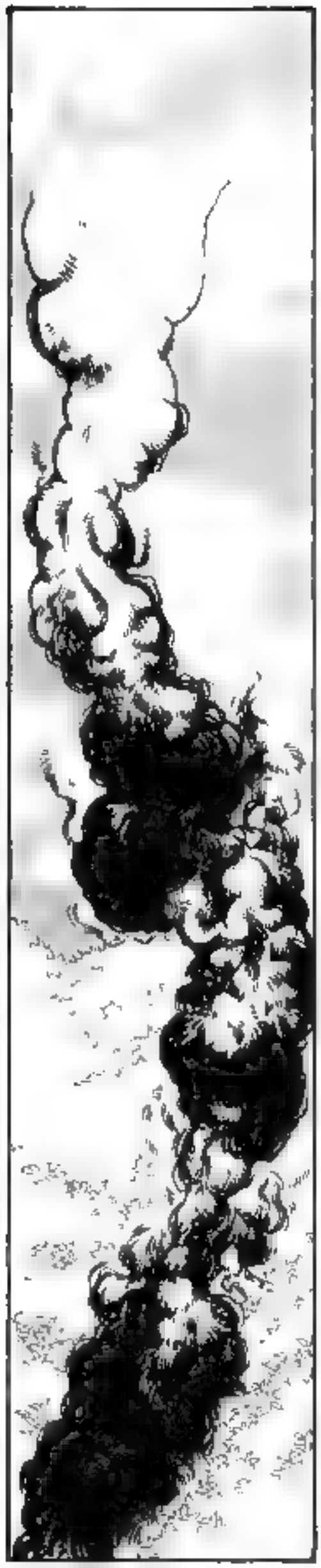
THE FAKE PRESIDENT YASUHARA-SAN (WHOSE TRUE IDENTITY HADN'T BEEN LEAKED YET TO OHASHI-SAN)...

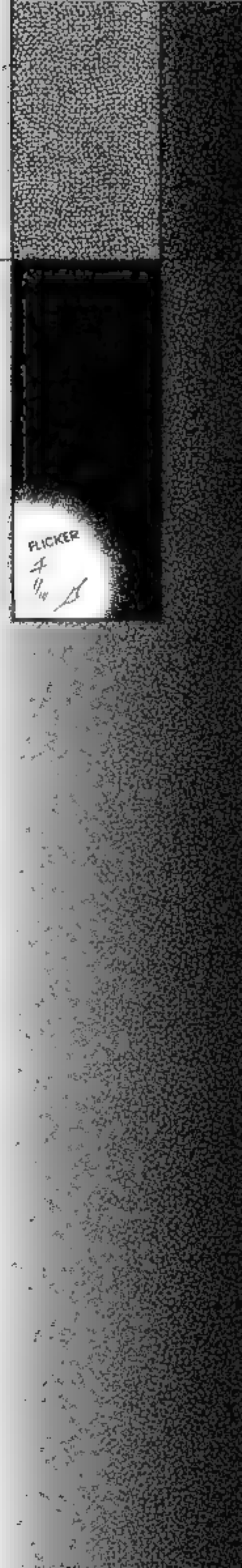
...EXPLAINED HOW WE DISCOVERED THE MISSING PEOPLE IN THE CENTER OF THE MANSION AND WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL OF THEM.

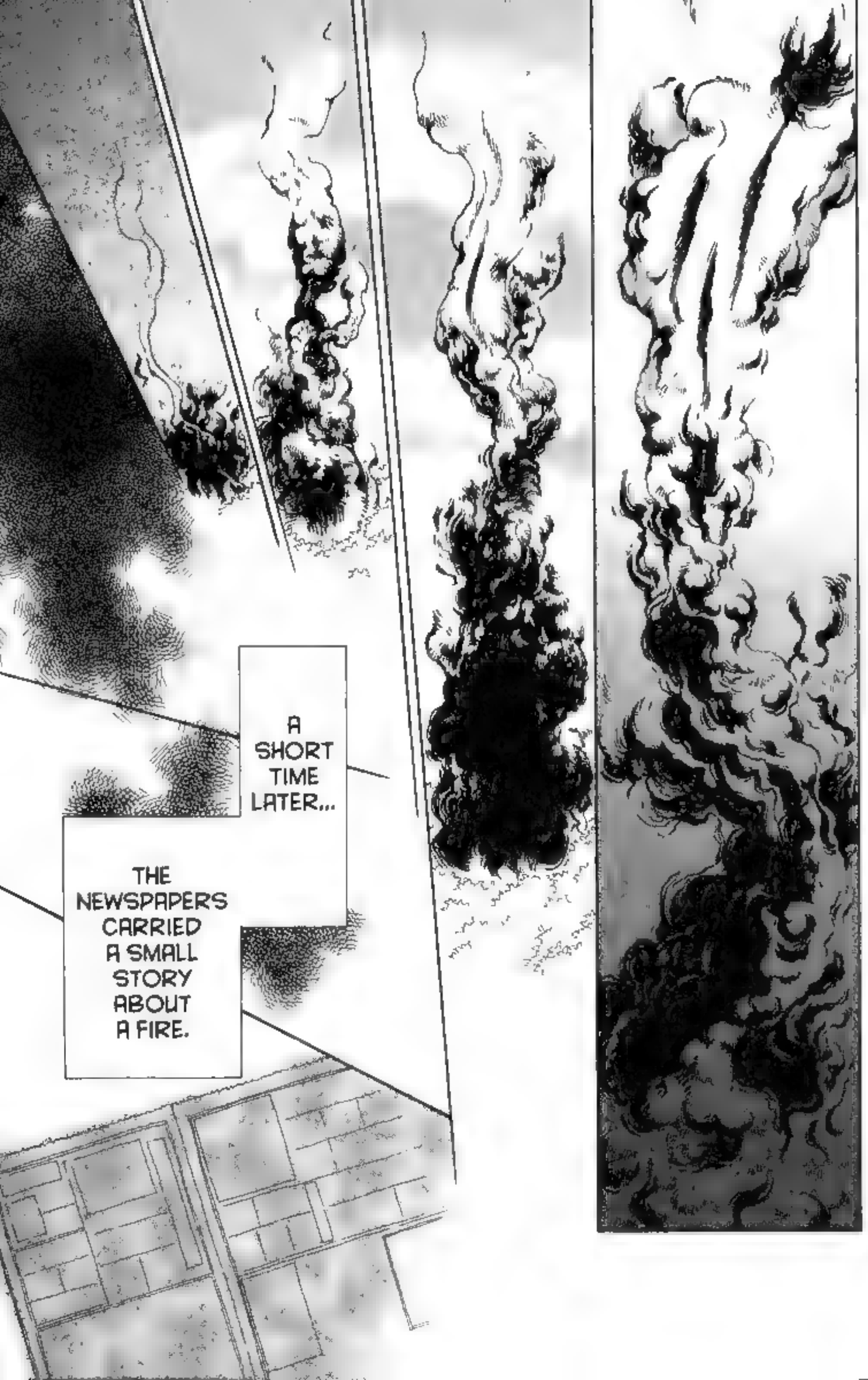
OTHERWISE, I THINK ONLY PURIFICATION BY FIRE WILL DO.

AN EXORCISM WOULD BE USELESS.

I UNDERSTAND.
AND SO...
WE DID JUST THAT TO THE MIYAMA MANSION.




FLICKER


A SHORT TIME LATER...
THE NEWSPAPERS CARRIED A SMALL STORY ABOUT A FIRE.

IT WAS A TINY STORY COMPARED TO THE WHOLE TRUTH OF THE EVENT.

MOUNTAIN FIRE IN SUWA CITY

VILLA AND GROVE DESTROYED

SPR

.....

MOOOOOOOOO...

WHAT IS IT?

WHY DOES IT FEEL SO STRANGE TO RETURN TO EVERY-DAY LIFE...

BONK

WE SOLVED THE CASE WITHOUT INCIDENT (WELL, NOT REALLY, BUT...) FOR NOW.

THAT WAS NO CO.NCIDENCE...

HMMPH...

WE SOLVED THE CASE...

BUT WHY WAS NARU CARRYING MASAKO'S COMB...

GOOD AFTER-NOON.

LING-A-LING

カラン

WHERE ARE LIN AND NARU?

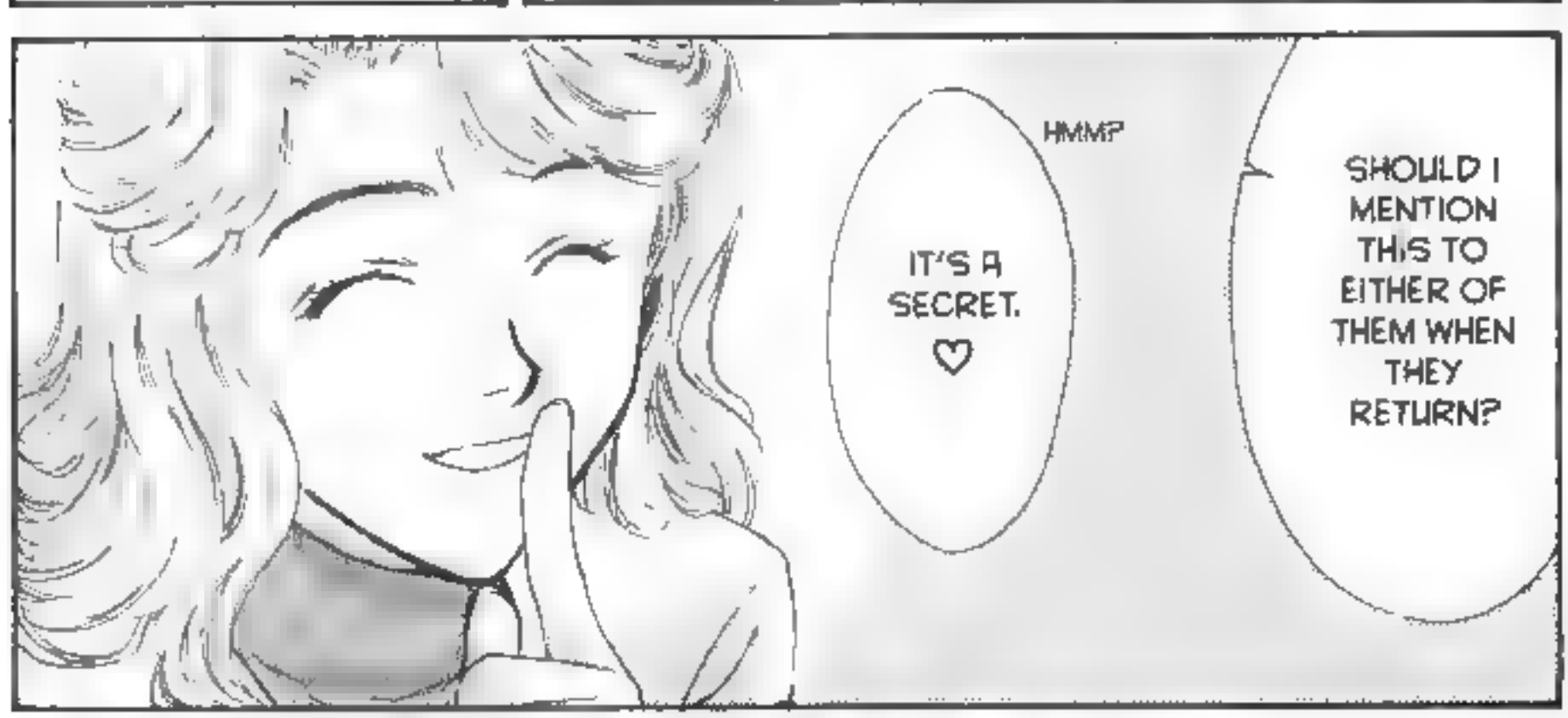
OH, MORI-SAN, WELCOME.

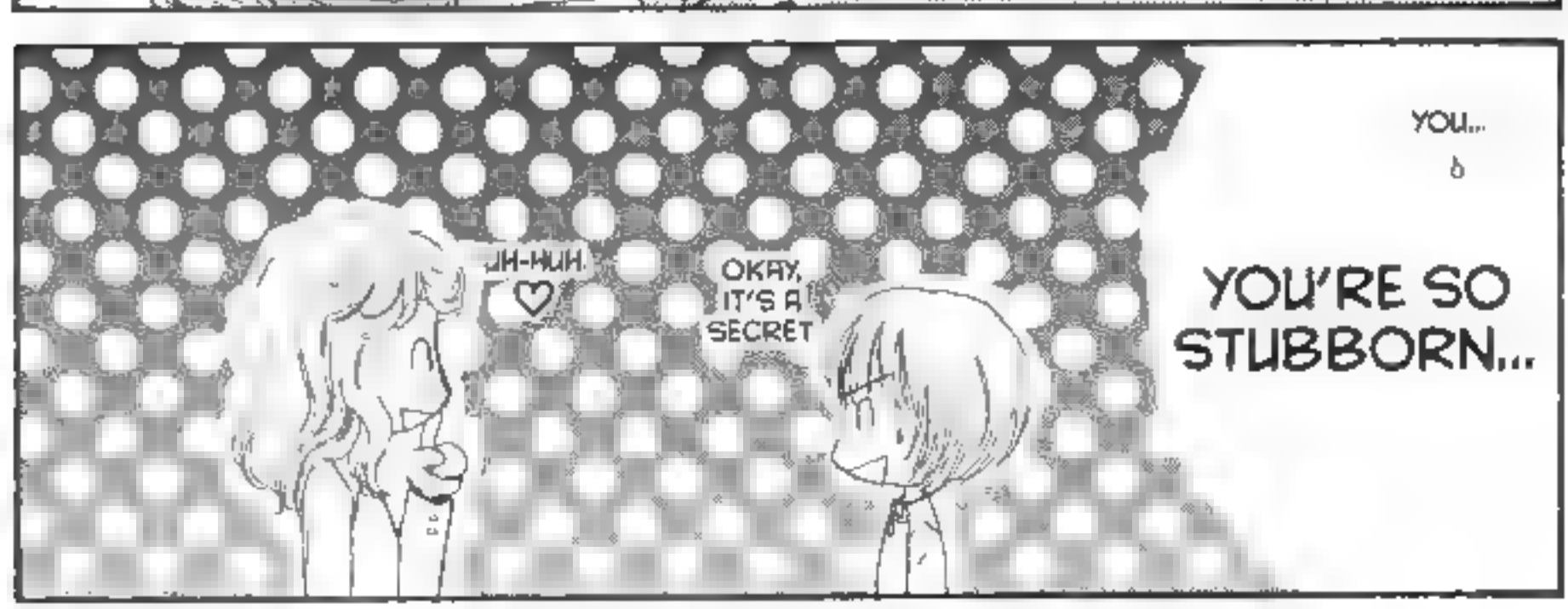
KLATTER

ガヒ

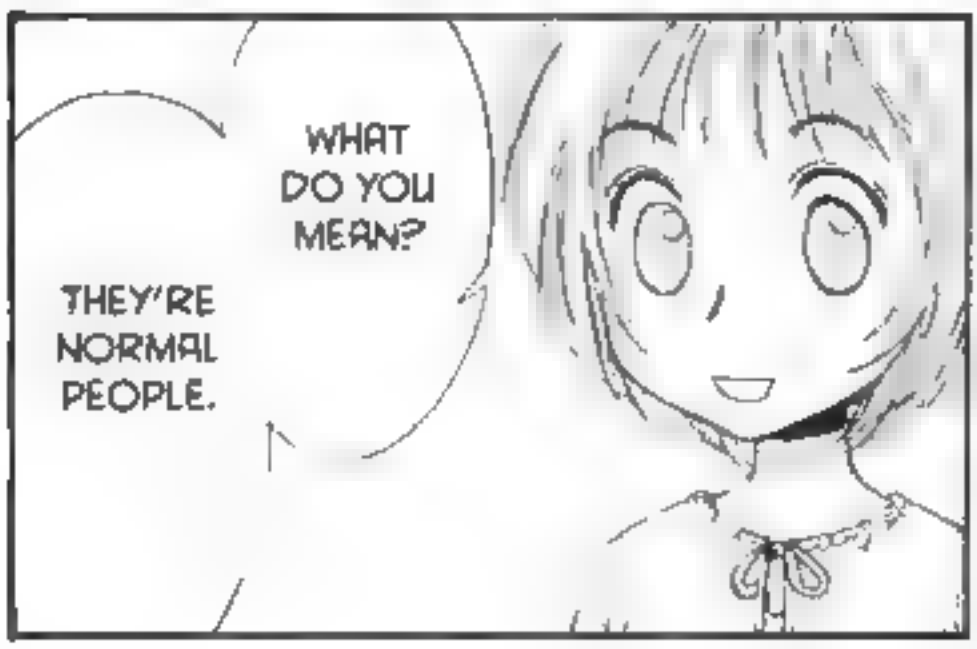
SHE'LL COME BACK...
BLINK

THEY STEPPED OUT TO EAT...
IS THERE A REASON YOU CAME TO VISIT?
THAT'S OKAY. I'LL COME BACK LATER.
MAYBE I'LL GO EAT, TOO.


SHOULD I MENTION THIS TO EITHER OF THEM WHEN THEY RETURN?
HMM?
IT'S A SECRET.


YOU...
YOU'RE SO STUBBORN...
UH-HUH.
OKAY, IT'S A SECRET

YES?
SAY...
MORI-SAN...
BUT I CAN DO SOME-THING ELSE INSTEAD.
HERE'S THE PERFECT CHANCE TO ASK HER ALL ABOUT NARU AND THE OTHERS WITHOUT THEM HERE!


WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THEY'RE NORMAL PEOPLE.

SLIDE
WHAT SORT OF PEOPLE ARE NARU'S PARENTS?

YEAH.
SORT OF.
AH, IS THIS A PERSONAL INQUIRY, PERHAPS?
SO NARU'S A SECOND-GENERATION RESEARCHER.

NARU'S FATHER IS A RESEARCHER OF SUPER-NATURAL PSYCHOLOGY.
GEH!?

NORMAL PEOPLE DON'T STOP SENDING THEIR SON TO SCHOOL.
AHAHA, THAT'S TRUE...

WELL, YEAH, THAT IS WHY.

HMMM... I SEE.

NARU'S NOT THE KIND OF CHILD WHO OPENS HIMSELF UP TO PEOPLE...

BUT THERE'S NO REASON TO MAINTAIN SECRECY.

AND NOW, I HAVE A LITTLE MORE INFO TO SHARE.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH THIS WOMAN...
HUH, IS THAT TRUE?
MASAKO HAS FEELINGS FOR NARU...
Y...YEAH, TOTALLY! YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S OUT-RAGEOUS?
AHAHAHA
OH!
YOU EVEN SAID, "SHE'S CONCERNED ABOUT HIM," MORI-SAN.
AND NARU WAS CARRYING HER COMB.
YEAH...
NARU WORRIES ABOUT THOSE CLOSE TO HIM.
THE KID DOESN'T SHOW IT OFTEN, BUT HE'S NOT JUST A ROBOT.
B-BUT...
I WAS SAYING THAT ABOUT YOU, TANIYAMA-SAN!
I MISUNDER-STOOD, I MISUNDER-STOOD!

HEHE

WHAT IS IT THEN?

PROBABLY

I SEE...HIS LACK OF EMOTION DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR.

—WHAT IS IT?

RIGHT?

WELL!

I'M GLAD THAT'S STRAIGHTENED OUT.

LET ME TAKE YOU OUT TO LUNCH FOR ALL THE TROUBLE I'VE CAUSED YOU.

UM

BUT THE OFFICE...

MY TREAT!

LET'S GO!

— CONTINUED IN VOL. 8 —

!SPECIAL THANX!

•A SAKAMOTO
•M HONMA
•C INOUE
•M SATO
•F ONO
editor K KAWAMOTO
and YOU♥

LET'S MEET AGAIN!♥

S INADA

About the Creators of Ghost Hunt

ABOUT THE CREATOR

•

Shiho Inada

Born on October 17 in Kanagawa Prefecture.

Sign: Libra.

Blood type: B.

She made her debut with *Camouflage* in 1994.

Her best-known work is *Ghost Hunt*.

ABOUT THE WRITER

•

Fuyumi Ono

Born in Oita Prefecture.

She made her debut with *Teen's Heart*,
published on Kodansha X Library

Her most popular works are the *Evil Spirit* series and the *Twelve Kingdom* series.

Her works are widely read, and although her novels are considered young adult fiction, her works are read by people from all walks of life.

Translation Notes

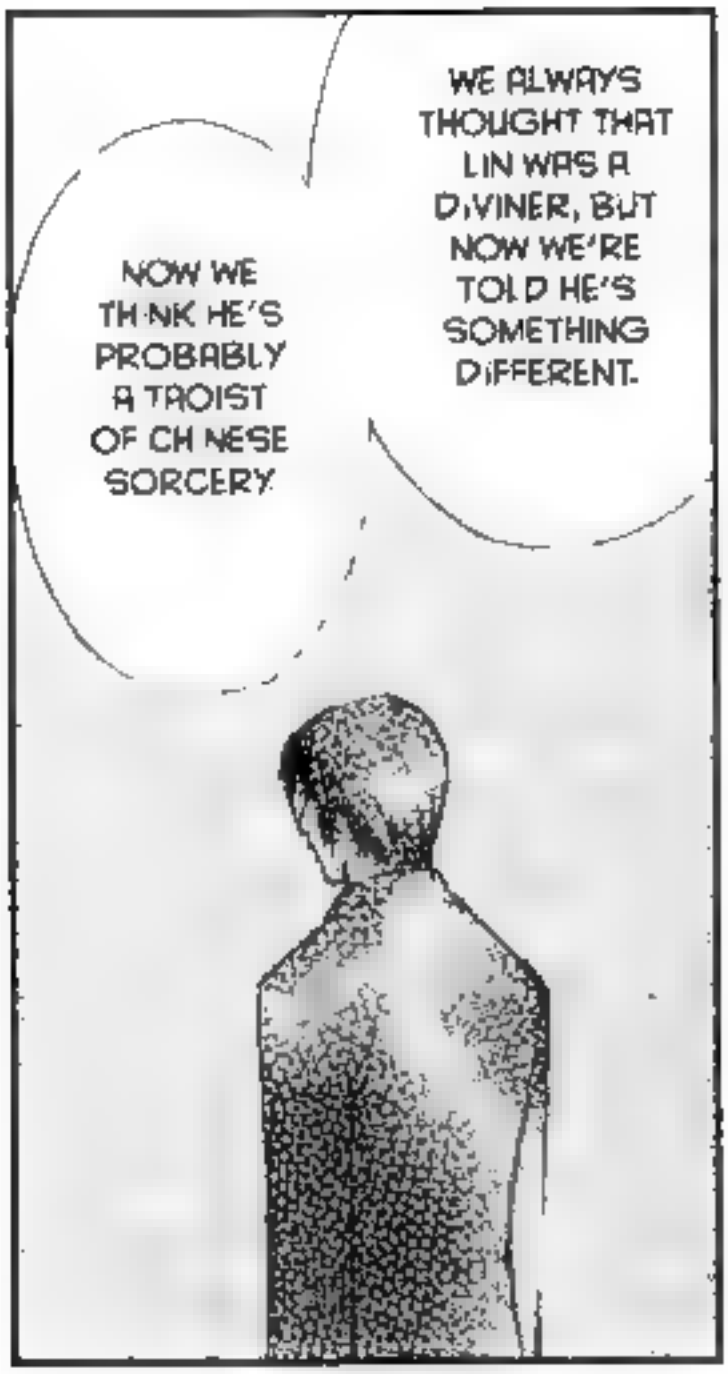
Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural difference is used

PAGE 12, *Yamazoku* Spirit

Monk-san's T-shirt says *"Yamazoku Damashii"* or "Bandit Spirit," an apparently subversive play on the popular Japanese saying *"Yamato Damashii,"* or "Japanese Spirit." (Yamato is the name for ancient Japan, before major contact with Chinese, Europeans, and other foreigners.) This phrase represents that vague but essential nature of being a true "Japanese"—the soul of what makes Japan unique. It's stamped on everything from T-shirts to tattoos. Monk-san's reworded T-shirt hints that he is not your typical ex-monk ...

PAGE 24, Suwa City

The Suwa region used to be an old mountainous province in central Japan. It and its main city (Suwa City) are now part of the modern-day province of Nagano, the home of the 1988 Winter Olympics.



PAGE 51, Diviner

Onmyouji are a special group of Japanese diviners who base their arts on Chinese traditions. Key to their philosophies are the five Chinese elements (wood, fire, earth, metal, and water) and the *yin-yang* duality (known as *onmyou* in Japanese).

PAGE 51, Taoist

Taoism literally means "the way," and it is the name for several forms of Chinese philosophies and religions. There is no one definition of what a Taoist is, but many Chinese ideas about the supernatural such as spirit channeling and possession are associated with Taoism.

PAGE 96, Fear the glory of God

Since John is a Christian exorcist, he doesn't necessarily have any power over nonbelievers.

PAGE 103, *–san*

Modern Japan is gradually breaking down the gender barriers, but it is still traditional for boys to address most girls (and vice versa) by their family names and add *-san*. Leaving the *-san* out is a sign of close ties. Calling a person of the opposite gender by first name only is a sign of very *intimate* ties. Masako Hara is jealous of Mai Taniyama because Naru calls her "Mai," while he uses the more formal "Hara-san" for Masako.

PAGE 116, Meiji

The Meiji era marks the reign of the Meiji Emperor from 1868 to 1912 in Japan. Anyone old enough to remember the Meiji era would be over a hundred years old now.

PAGE 151, *Nanmaku Sanmanda Bazaradan Kan*

The team is using the same *Tai-Mahou* (a type of Japanese counterspell) that it relied on in previous volumes. It is a Buddhist mantra (*Naumaku Sanmanda Bazaradan Kan*) dedicated to the deity Acala. It is extremely difficult to give a literal translation in a foreign language. Therefore we have left it in Japanese to maintain its authenticity.

PAGE 152, *Kuji: Rin Pyou Tou Sha Kai Chin Retsu Zai Zen*

All types of Shinto practitioners from *miko* to ninja warriors have chanted these nine words as a classic mantra. The words represent concepts integral to channeling your body energy or *chi*, and specific hand gestures (*mudra* or *in*) accompany each. Roughly speaking, the nine words stand for strength of body and mind, channeling of energy, harmony with the universe, healing, sensing danger, empathy, awareness of space and time, control of nature, and enlightenment respectively. As many a manga character knows, they are also useful for warding off demons and spirits.

A HUNGRY HOUSE

After a series of disappearances in an old mansion, the intrepid ghost hunters of Shibuya Psychic Research try to unearth the gruesome secret of this scary maze of rooms and passageways. The discovery that the house has a history of murders leaves the team fearing for their safety. What mystery is this dark manor hiding? And will SPR crack the case in time to save one of their own from a terrible fate?

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NO E-MAIL

HERE'S THE 7TH VOLUME OF THE MANGA: GHOST HUNT.
FOR THE FANS BY A FAN.
REMEMBER, IF YOU LIKE IT, GO BUY IT!
PAGES HAVE BEEN CROPPED TO GET RID OF THE GUTTER,
BUT IT'S STILL VISIBLE,
AS I REALLY DON'T CARE TOO MUCH ABOUT THE QUALITY.
SCANNED > CROPPED > CLEANED > SAVED.
ALSO I'VE DONE A QUICK JOB ON ANY DOUBLE PAGE SPREADS,
JUST TO MAKE IT EASIER TO READ.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE MY ATTEMPT, GO BUY IT FOR
YOURSELVES AND ENJOY YOUR OWN VERSION..
ANYHOW ENJOY!

NEXT UP: NODAME CANTABILE VOL6
NOTE: LATEST VOLUME OUT, AND IT'S WHERE
THE ANIME FINISHED.
NEXT DUE TO *AHEM* REQUESTS (DEATH THREATS)
NODAME SHOULD BE NEXT.
AFTER THAT I'LL DO A DOUBLE RELEASE OF A NEW PROJECT.
HMM, THIS COULD HAVE GONE BETTER, BUT MEH.
ANYHOW ENJOY.
AND THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY!
:P

RU